

How do I create a dot plot in Excel?

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RECOMMENDED CITATION

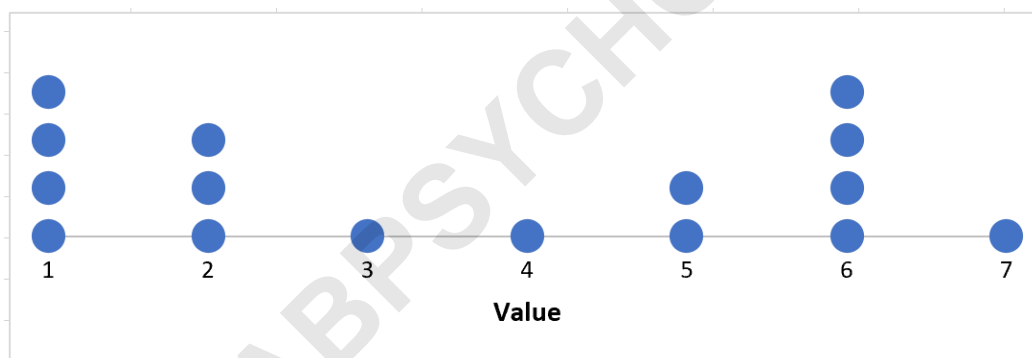
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Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=136305>

Creating a dot plot in Excel is a simple process that allows you to visually represent data points on a horizontal axis. To create a dot plot, you will need to first enter your data into a spreadsheet. Once the data is entered, you can use the built-in charting tools in Excel to create a dot plot chart. This chart type is ideal for displaying data with a small range of values and can be customized with various formatting options to enhance its visual appeal. With its easy-to-use interface, Excel makes it convenient to create and modify dot plots for effective data analysis and presentation purposes.

Create a Dot Plot in Excel

A dot plot is a type of plot that displays frequencies using dots.

This tutorial explains how to create the following dot plot in Excel:



Example: Dot Plot in Excel

Suppose we have the following frequency table in Excel:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	value	frequency				
2	1	4				
3	2	3				
4	3	1				
5	4	1				
6	5	2				
7	6	4				
8	7	1				
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						

Use the following steps to create a dot plot for this frequency table.

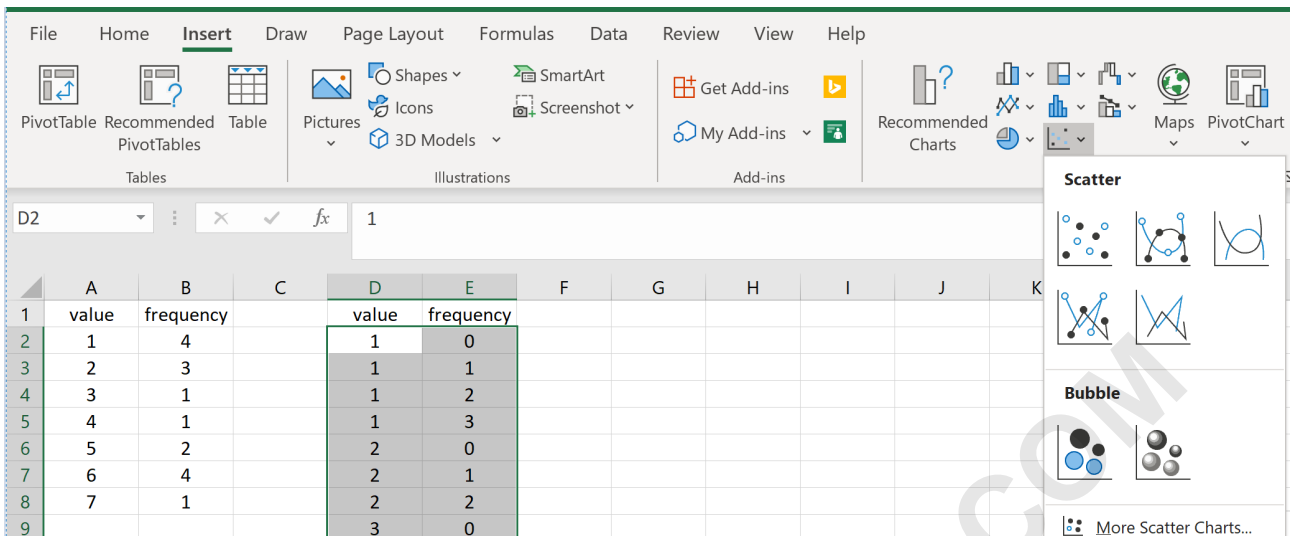
Step 1: Reorganize the data.

First, we need to reorganize the data into a "long" format:

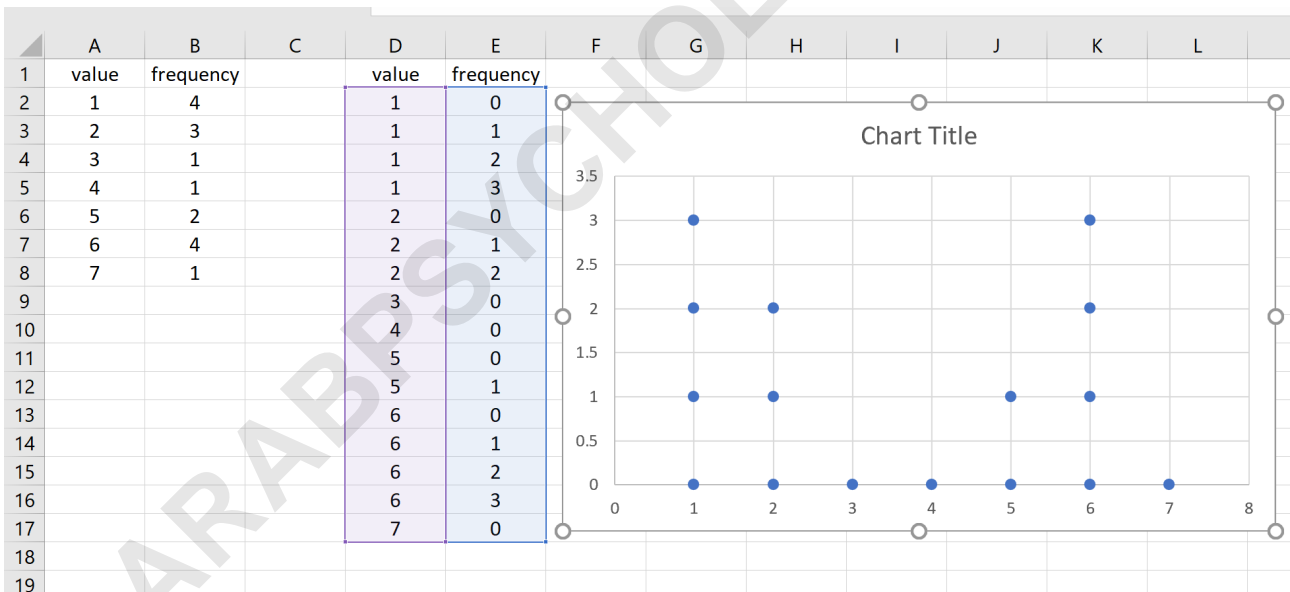
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	value	frequency		value	frequency		
2	1	4		1	0		
3	2	3		1	1		
4	3	1		1	2		
5	4	1		1	3		
6	5	2		2	0		
7	6	4		2	1		
8	7	1		2	2		
9				3	0		
10				4	0		
11				5	0		
12				5	1		
13				6	0		
14				6	1		
15				6	2		
16				6	3		
17				7	0		
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							

Step 2: Create a dot plot using the "scatterplot" option.

Highlight cells D2:E17. Along the top ribbon, click Insert. Within the Charts group, select the first chart within the Scatter group:



The following plot will appear:



Step 3: Customize the chart.

Lastly, we can customize the chart to make it a bit more visually appealing. Namely:

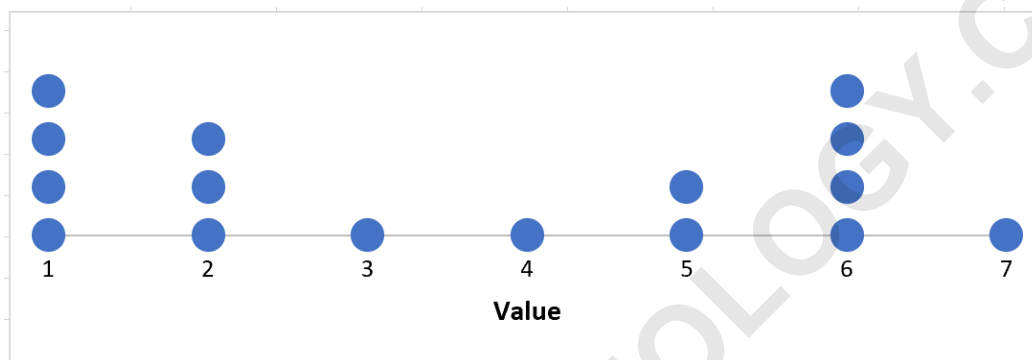
Delete the gridlines.

Delete the title.

Increase the size of the individual dots.

Change the x-axis to only span from 1 to 7.

This will leave us with a dot plot that looks like this:



The individual values are shown along the x-axis and the frequencies of those values are represented by the number of dots.