

What are Excel charts and how are they used?

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Excel charts are visual representations of data that are created using the charting feature in Microsoft Excel. They are used to present and analyze data in a clear and organized manner. Excel charts can be used to display various types of data such as numerical, statistical, or financial data. They are commonly used in business and academic settings for data analysis, trend analysis, and decision making. Excel charts offer a variety of chart types, customization options, and formatting features to accurately and effectively present data. They are a powerful tool for organizing and interpreting complex data sets, making them an essential tool for data-driven decision making.

Excel Charts

Excel Charts

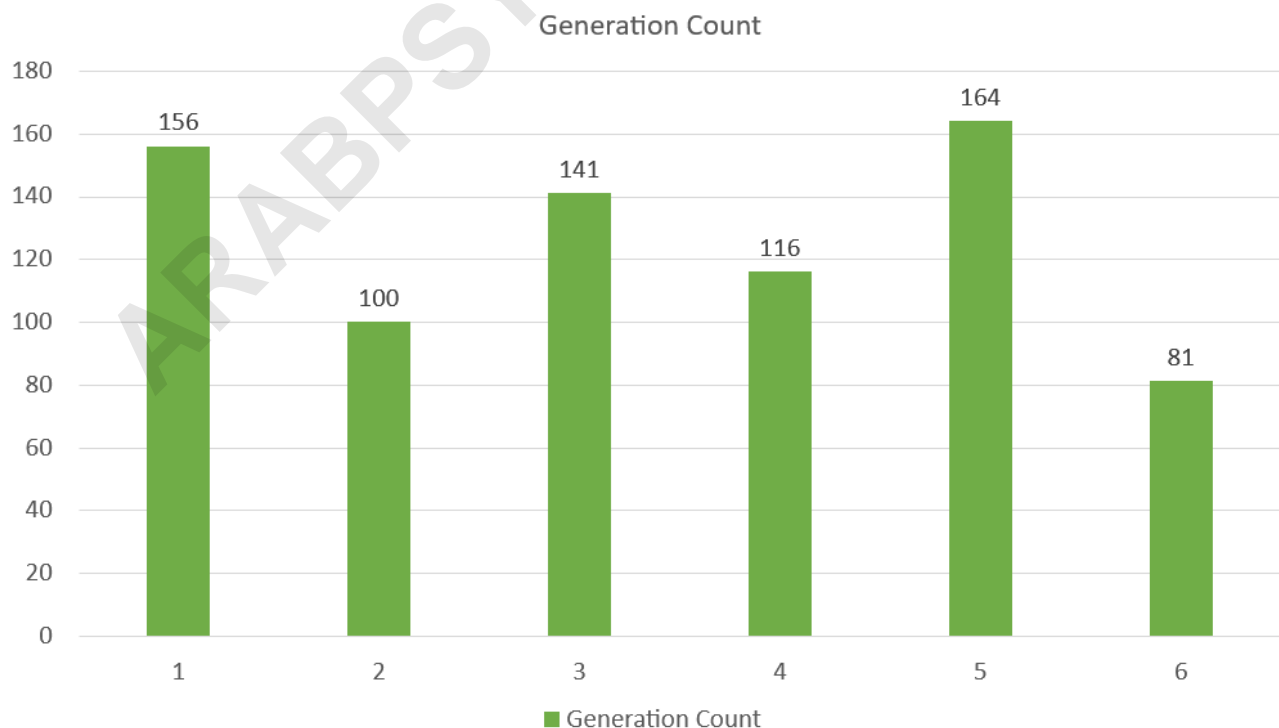
Charts are visual representations of data used to make it more understandable.

Commonly used charts are:

Pie chart
Column chart
Line chart

Different charts are used for different types of data.

Note: Charts are also called graphs and visualizations.



The chart above is a column chart representing the number of Pokemons in each generation.

Note: In some cases the data has to be processed before plotted into a chart.

Charts can easily be created in a few steps in Excel.

Creating a Chart in Excel

Creating a chart, step by step:

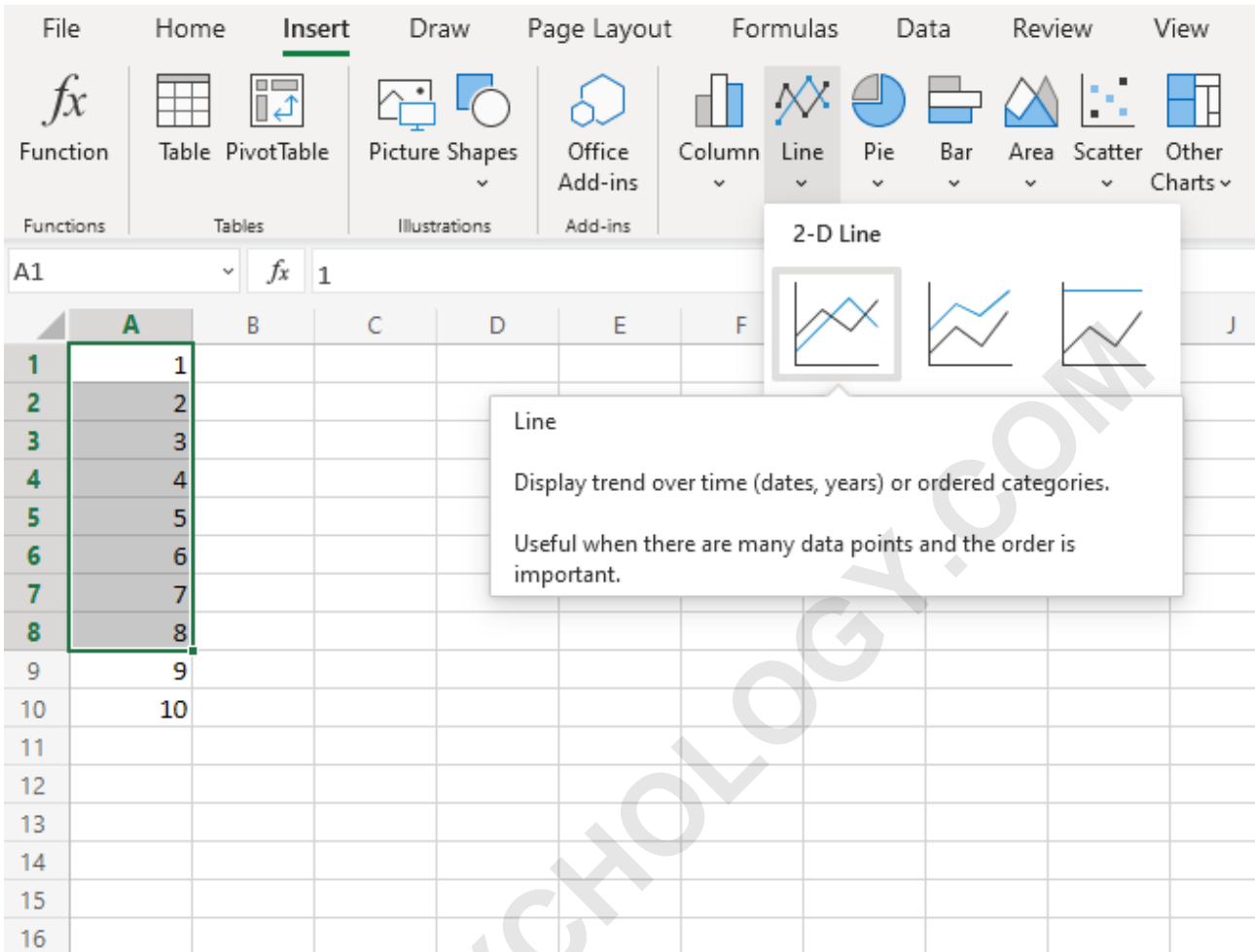
Select the range `A1:A8`

	A	B
1	1	
2	2	
3	3	
4	4	
5	5	
6	6	
7	7	
8	8	
9	9	
10	10	
11		

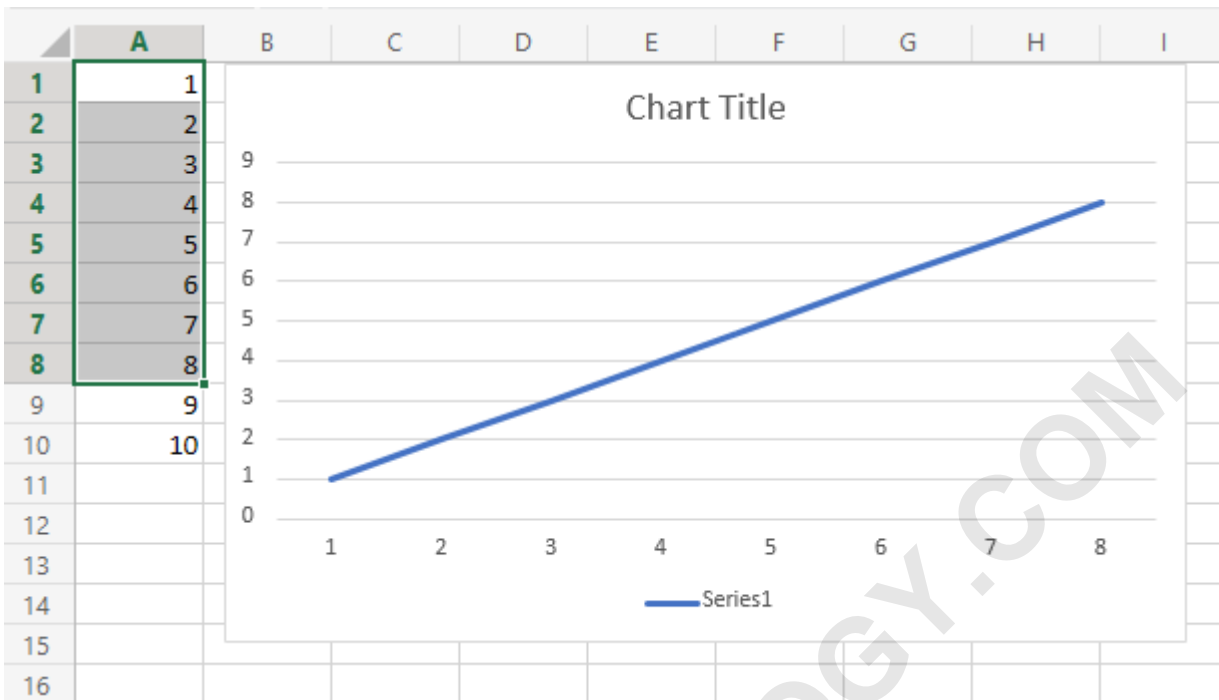


Click on the **Insert** menu, then click on the Line menu () and choose **Line** () from the drop-down menu

Note: This menu is accessed by expanding the ribbon.



You should now get this chart:



Excellent! You have now created your first chart.

Note: The cells 9 and 10 were not selected in the range, and therefore not included in the graph.

Creating Another Chart in Excel

Lets compare the stats for the Pokemons; Charmander, Squirtle and Bulbasaur using a column chart.

Select the range A1 : G 4

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Name	HP	Attack	Defense	Sp. Atk	Sp. Def	Speed	
2	Bulbasaur	45	49	49	65	65	45	
3	Charmander	39	52	43	60	50	65	
4	Squirtle	44	48	65	50	64	43	
5								

Click on the



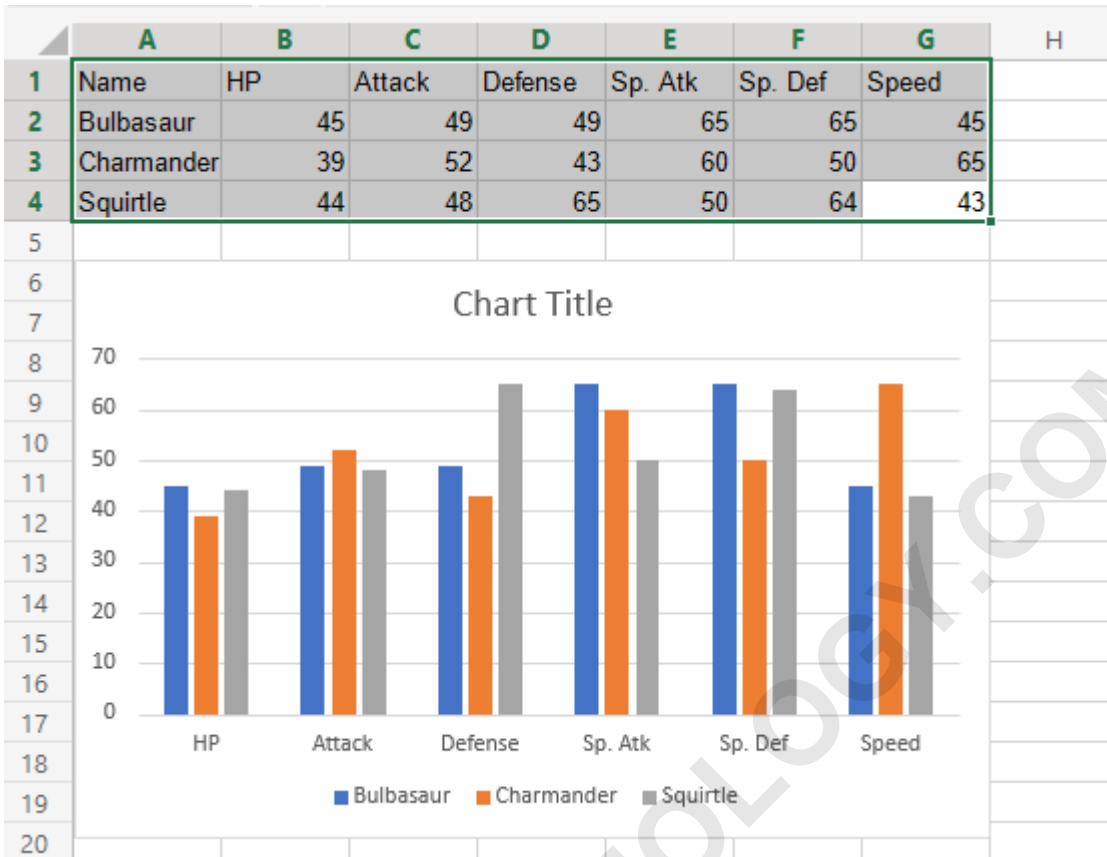
insert menu, then click on the column menu () and choose **Clustered Column** () from the drop-down menu

Note: This menu is accessed by expanding the ribbon.

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Excel interface with the 'Insert' ribbon selected. The 'Column' chart type is chosen, and a tooltip for '2-D Column' is visible. The tooltip lists three options: 'Clustered Column', 'Stacked Column', and '3-D Column'. The 'Clustered Column' option is highlighted, and its tooltip is open, providing a description: 'Compare values across categories by using vertical rectangles. Use it when the order of categories is not important or for displaying item counts such as a histogram.'

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Name	HP	Attack	Defense	Sp. Atk
2	Bulbasaur	45	39	45	40
3	Charmander	39	62	50	65
4	Squirtle	44	55	65	80
5					
6					
7					
8					
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19					
20					

You should now get this chart:



The chart gives a visual overview for the Pokemons stats.

Charmander, represented by the orange bars, and has the highest speed. Squirtle, represented by the gray bars, has the highest defense.

Note: The default chart title is "Chart Title". It can be changed. You will learn about chart customization in a later chapter.

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