

Graphing Paired Data with Excel

When you construct a graph or "chart" of ordered pairs (x,y) in Excel, you can put your graph on the same page as your spreadsheet by "**embedding** it" in your work sheet or you can put it on a new page by "**adding** a chart sheet". *With either approach, make sure your x-values are in increasing order and are in a column just to the left of the corresponding y-values.* The columns may have headings (words) at the top. Then

1. Select the rows or columns that contain the data (and the column headings) you want to include in your chart.

(OPTION 1) Insert or **embed** a chart on your worksheet

2. Click the ChartWizard icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like a little bar graph.)
3. To set the location and size of the chart on your worksheet, position the cross hair where you want it, click, and then drag to form a box for your graph to fit in.
4. Follow the instructions in the ChartWizard.

(OPTION 2) **Add** a chart sheet

2. On the **Insert** menu, point to **Chart**, and then click **As New Sheet**.
3. Follow the instructions in the ChartWizard. You'll be able to switch from the chart sheet to the worksheet by clicking on tabs at the bottom of the screen once the chart is complete.

Once in the ChartWizard:

1. Click **Next** to accept the range of your x and y values.
2. Select the **XY[Scatter]** plot and click **Next**.
3. In the third frame of the ChartWizard, you will probably want to pick the second option, which is a connected graph. Then click **Next**.
4. Step four of the ChartWizard is a sample graph. You will probably just want to click **Next**.
5. In the last step (5) of the ChartWizard you should add a descriptive title and axis labels to your graph and then click **Finish**.