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WHAT's New?



**Pinpoint the 3-D chart's data points with drop lines**

Excel's 3-D charts do a good job of simulating 3-D objects on a 2-D screen, but it can sometimes be difficult to visually line up a data point with its corresponding position on the chart's category axis.

Fortunately, you can add drop lines, which are visual aids that help anchor each data point to the category axis.

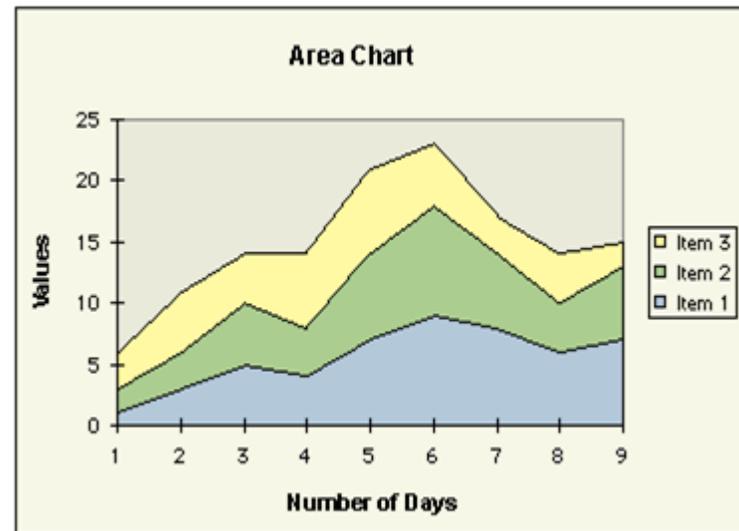
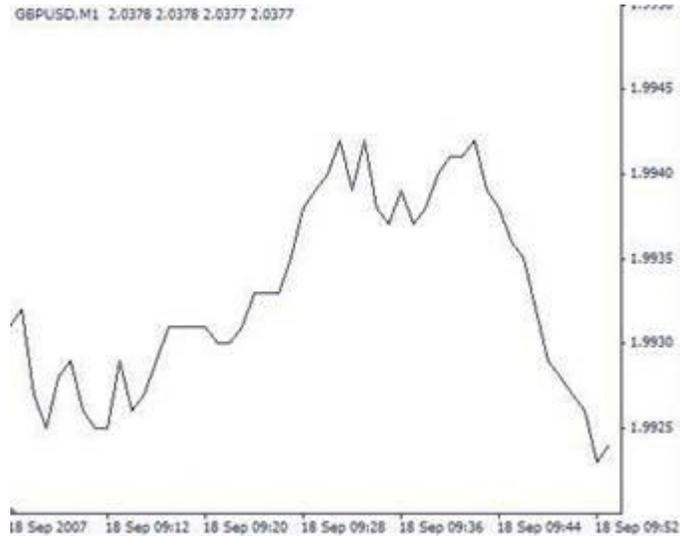
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## Pinpoint your 3-D chart's data points with drop lines



The task can be even more difficult if the chart has been rotated or the perceived angle of elevation has been changed. Fortunately, you can add drop lines, which are visual aids that help anchor each data point to the category axis.

### To display drop lines in a chart:

1. Launch Excel and open the workbook that contains your chart.

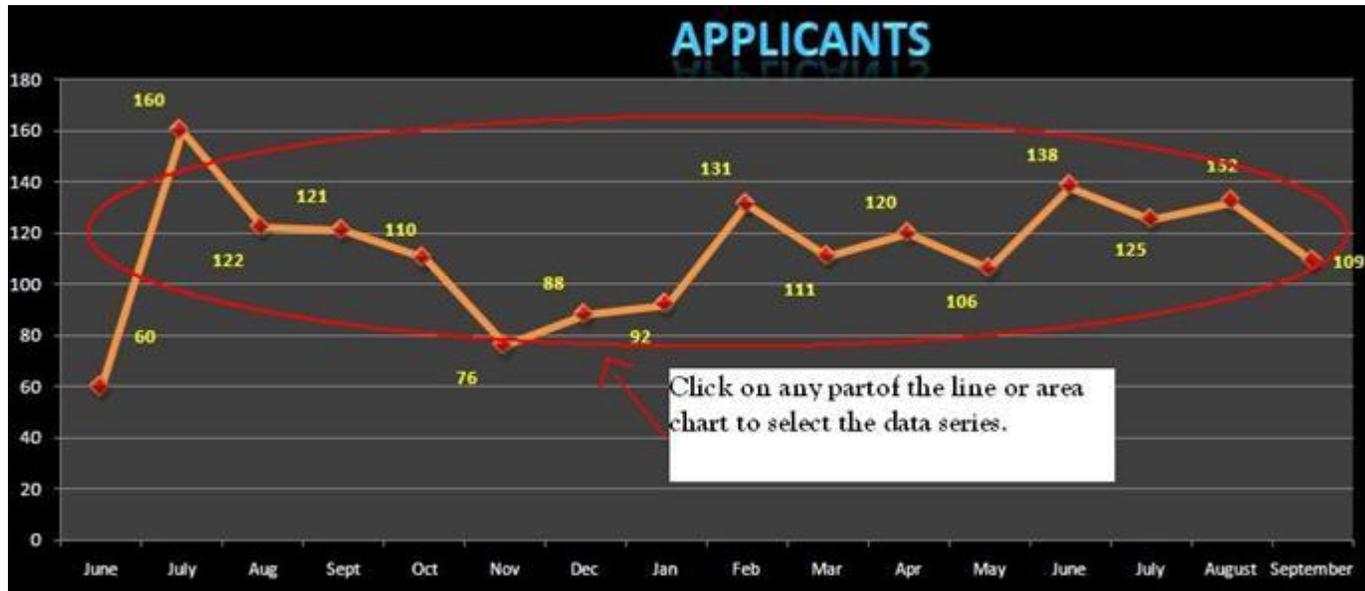
APPLICANTS	
June	60
July	160
Aug	122
Sept	121
Oct	110
Nov	76
Dec	88
Jan	92
Feb	131
Mar	111
Apr	120
May	106
June	138
July	125
August	132
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July	125
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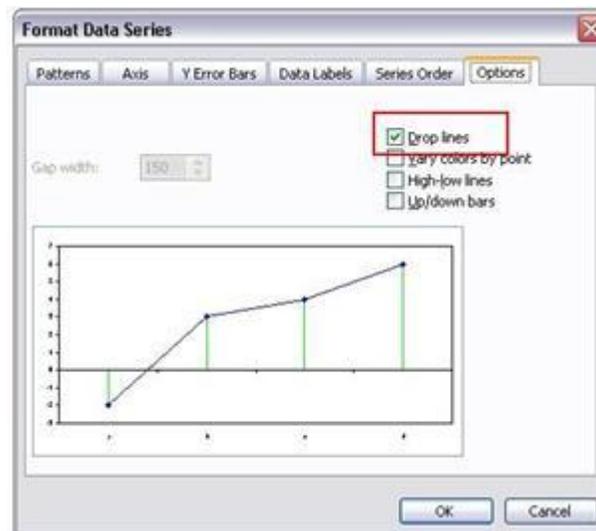


2. Select a data series on the chart, and then choose Format | Selected Data Series from the menu bar. Alternatively, you can press [Ctrl+1].

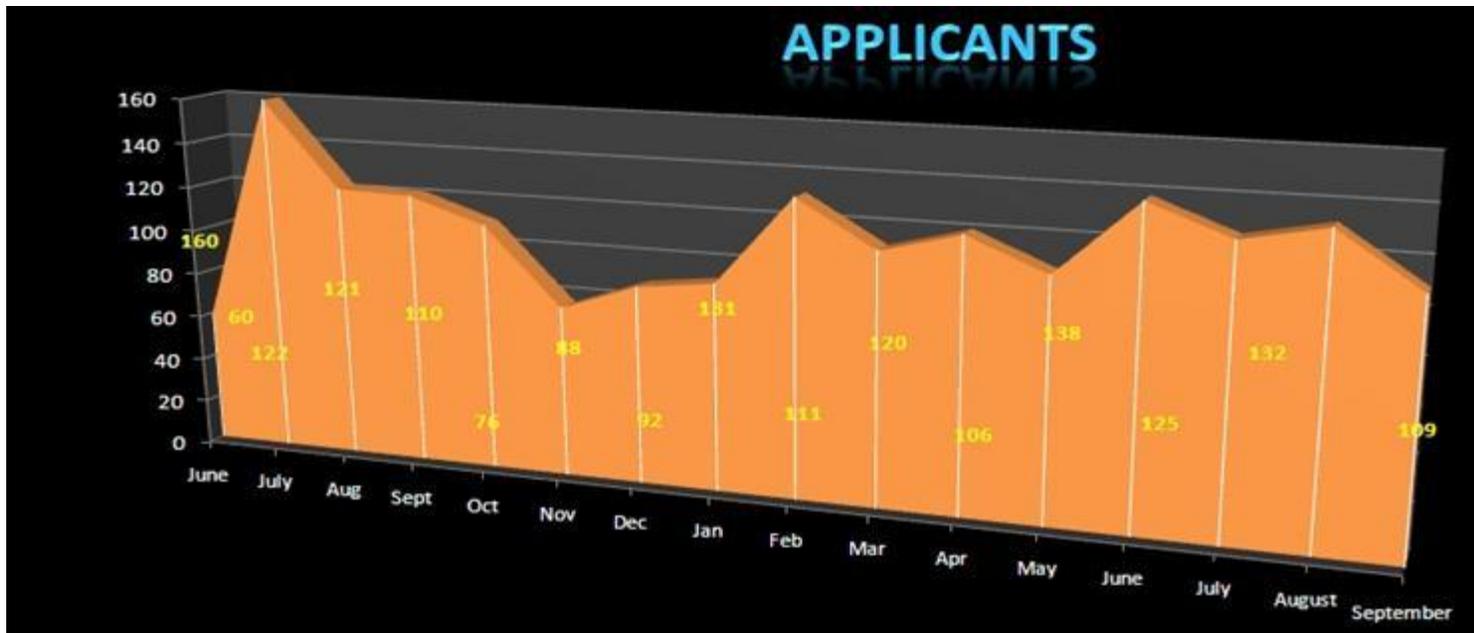




3. Click on the Options tab in the Format Data Series dialog box.
4. Select the Drop Lines check box and then click OK.



5. Vertical lines now extend from each data point to the category axis, eliminating confusion and guesswork.



**NOTE:**

You can also apply this formatting option to 2-D area and line charts.

In Excel 2007 and 2010, select the data series to which you want to add drop lines. On the Chart Tools ribbon's Layout tab, click the Lines button in the Analysis group. Select Drop Lines from the dropdown list to add drop lines to that data series.

