Chart Tamer
Designing a Fix for Excel’s Charts

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The problem

Excel Charts
An Extreme Makeover

The opportunity

The problem

• Useless chart types
• Missing chart types
• Poor formatting defaults

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The problem

• Useless chart types
• Missing chart types
• Poor formatting defaults
• Silly formatting options

The offer

“I’d like Excel to provide some of the best visual data presentation functionality available.”

The hope-filled anticipation

“I think you’ll be pretty happy with some of the changes we are making for Office 12.”

The disappointment
More is not always better.

The problems remained.

The decision

**FIX IT!**

The constraints

- Don’t depart radically from Excel’s interface
- Don’t write code that won’t work on all platforms
- Stick to what can be done through Excel’s API

The original design – chart selection

The original design – color
The original design – defaults

The original design – formatting options