

16 Oct '09

MAKING A GRAPH

31b

MAKING A GRAPH, part 2

31b

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16 October 2009, 17Sept10

- 1) Draw the X and Y coordinates, three spaces away from the edge of the bottom and left edge of the page. On a standard lab notebook, this will leave an area 35 x 40 squares for the graph.
- 2) Determine the value of a single "square":
 - a) For the X axis:
 - i) Divide the range of X (highest value - lowest value) by the number of squares available (usually 35).
 - ii) Round up the value per square to the next decimal multiple of 1, 2, 5 or 10.
 - iii) Enter the numbers along the X axis every 2 or 5 squares (see example at bottom of page.)
 - b) For the Y axis:
 - i) Divide the range of Y (highest value - lowest value) by the number of squares available (usually 40).
 - ii) Round up the value per square to the next decimal multiple of 1, 2, 5 or 10.
 - iii) Enter the numbers along the Y axis every 2 or 5 squares (see example at bottom of page.)
- 3) Plot the data by entering a dot at the appropriate spots according to the coordinate values.
- 4) Circle (or square, etc) around the dot to protect it.
- 5) Connect the circles (not the dots) with a line to generate the curve.
- 6) Enter the descriptions:
 - a) Fully descriptive TITLE at the top of the page
 - b) Label the coordinates, including units
 - c) Identify the nature of the data: circles = "A", squares = "B", etc.
 - d) Give the resulting conclusion of the graph in a few words
 - e) Cross reference to the source of the data you have plotted on line 6 of the notebook.

Examples of 1, 2, 5 or 10:

