



SAP CHART DESIGNER

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

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1 Introduction

SAP CHART DESIGNER is a tool to create customizing XML files. The customizing XML files are used as templates for applying your own visual designs to SAP Chart output.

By working in an highly interactive graphical tool all of the chart's elements and their properties can be changed to create stunning graphical layouts and visual impressions. A preview area always shows your latest changes (WYSIWYG).

The Chart Designer creates visual templates for SAP Graphics components. The templates are saved in a text based XML format which can also be edited with a simple text editor.

Chart Designer helps to easily define background and foreground colors, font sizes and widths and many other formatting attributes. All these changes can be done interactively, you click on an element and quickly change the element's properties. While changing the properties the effects will be shown in the preview area.

2 Main Window

The Chart Designer supports two interaction modes, the Wizard Mode and the Design Mode.

After startup the Wizard Mode is active. You have wizard panes on the left side of the window, where you can select from different options how your chart should look like. After pressing the "Finish" button the Design Mode will be active.

2.1 Wizard Mode



Picture 1: Chart Designer in Wizard Mode

The Wizard Mode offers six steps to quickly create a design template on predefined visual styles.

The following wizard steps are available:

- 1.) Chart Type Selection
- 2.) Texts & Data Selection

- 3.) Value Properties
- 4.) Element Properties
- 5.) Axis Properties
- 6.) End

After the activation of the "Finish" button the Chart Designer changes to Design Mode.

2.2 Design Mode



Picture 2: Chart Designer in Design Mode

The Design Mode offers two more views on the right side of the window: the overview and the properties view.

The overview contains all chart elements of the current chart. A chart element is a single graphical output element where e.g. coloring settings can be applied to.

After clicking on an chart element, the element's properties appear in the property list. Change the properties and view the results simultaneously in the chart preview.

3 Menu Functions

The main menu functions will be described here.

3.1 File Menu

New

The **File->New** command reactivates the Wizard Mode. A new chart can be created and easily customized using the wizard.

Open Data

The **File->Open Data** command will open a file selector to open a data file. The data file extension is XML and the data format should be compliant to the SAP Chart Data XML Format. (See the documentation to SAP Chart Data XML Format)

The new data will immediately appear in the chart's preview.

Open Customizing

The **File->Open Customizing** command will open a file selector to choose a previously saved customizing file. The customizing file must be compliant to the SAP Chart Customizing XML Format definition. (See documentation for SAP Chart Data XML Format).

The Open command will reset last settings and begin with a new chart.

Add Customizing

The **File->Add Customizing** command loads more customizing XML on top of your current design. The current design will not be reset before loading. The added customizing will change the current design depending on the content of the added customizing XML file.

This is of advantage if you previously saved customizing files which just contained customizing settings for the chart's series or the chart's background area for example. After adding such customizing XML files, e.g. the background appearance changes.

You can also save customizing files that contain language texts only. Loading additional language customizing files will immediately switch the shown language texts.

To create such customizing XML files, the XML file has to be edited with a text editor. Keep the formatting tags you need, delete all the others. Save the edited XML file with a appropriate file name description.

Save Customizing

The **File->Save Customizing** command saves the current customizing settings into a xml file.

Export Picture

The **File->Export Picture** command saves the current view into a Microsoft Windows bitmap file.

Print

The **File-Print** command prints the current view to your favorite printer.

Exit

Exit the Chart Designer. Current Settings will be lost, if you did not save them before.

3.2 Edit Menu

Copy Image To Clipboard

Copies the current chart preview into the Microsoft Windows clipboard. You can then reuse the picture in any word processor programs, or other applications.

Copy Customizing to Clipboard

Copies the current customizing XML to the Microsoft Windows clipboard. You can then edit the XML in you favorite text editor.

3.3 Help

About

Displays the program's version information.

4 Technical Requirements

Windows 2000 or Windows XP

SAP Gui 6.20 or SAP Gui 6.40, latest patch release.

SAP CHART DESIGNER ACTIVE X CONTROL

Installed Files

The SAP Chart Designer is part of the SAP Gui Installation. The Chart Designer is available as an ActiveX control which will automatically be installed within the SAP Gui directoy. The following files will be installed:

- a) Sapchart.ocx – The ActiveX Control
- b) Sapchart.tpl – Small set of design templates for the chart designer wizard
- c) Lang\chartdesigner??.txt – Language files for SAP Chart Designer ActiveX Control

Dependencies

The Chart Designer ActiveX control was developed with Microsoft Visual C++ and Microsoft Foundation Classes, so the redistributable files of MFC and Visual C++ are needed to run the ActiveX control.

SAPGUI 6.20 depends on Microsoft Redistributable Files Version 6.

SAPGUI 6.40 depends on Microsoft Redistributable Files Version 7.

The redistributable files are included in the SAP Gui Installation.

[Download Microsoft Visual Basic Redistributable Files](#)

(<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=bf9a24f9-b5c5-48f4-8edd-cdf2d29a79d5&displaylang=en>)