AREA CHARTS

An **area chart** is a line chart where the area between the line and the axis are shaded with a color. These charts are typically used to represent **accumulated totals over time** and are the conventional way to display **stacked lines**.

They show a **part-to-whole relationship over a time period**.
The **total vertical of a stacked area chart** shows the **whole**, while the **height of each different strip** shows the **parts.**
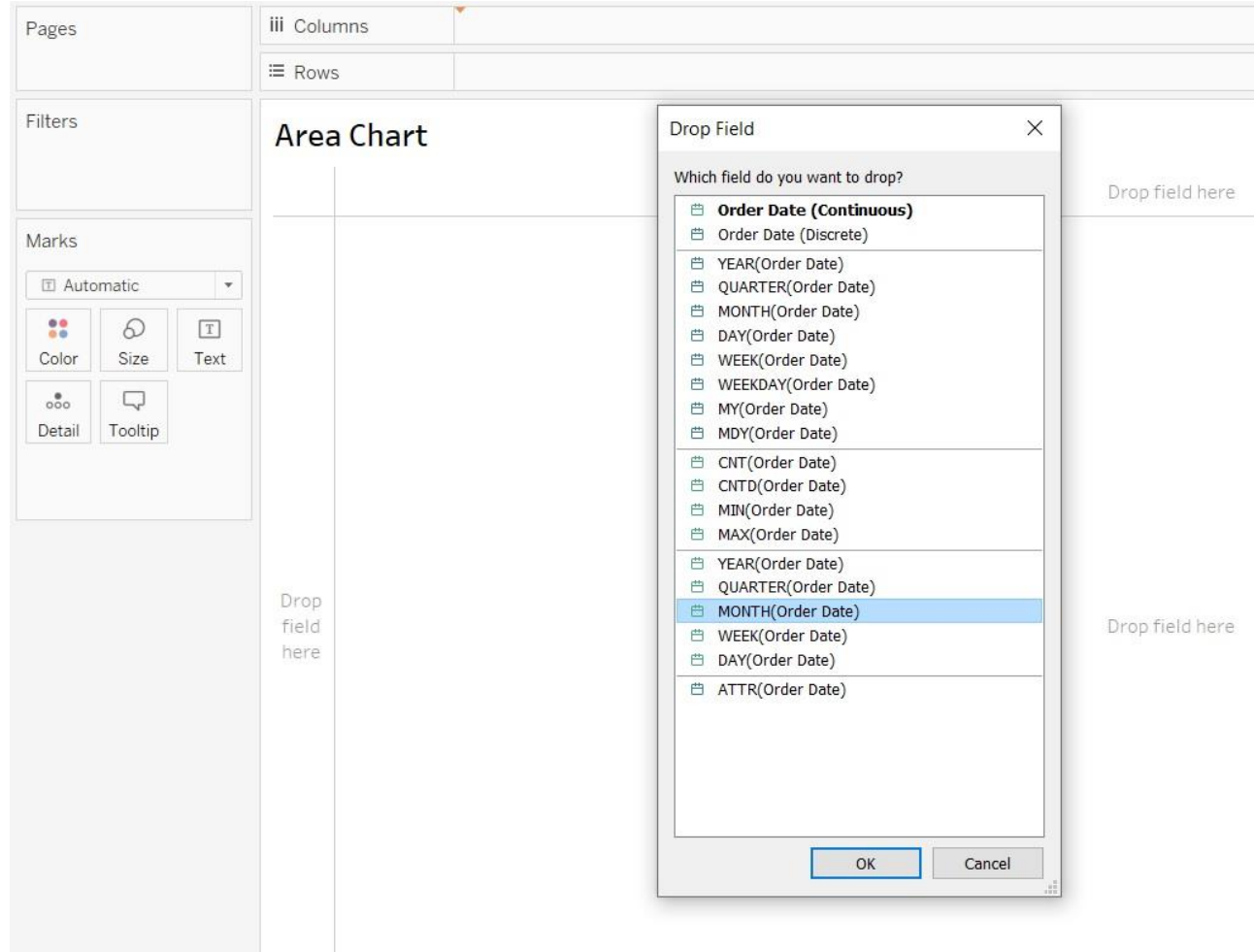
AREA CHARTS

We must take note that in case there are multiple series i.e., those not attached to a bottom or top baseline will be influenced by the values above and below as well as their own.

The basic building blocks for an **area chart** are as follows:

Mark type: Area
Columns shelf: Dimension
Rows shelf: Measure
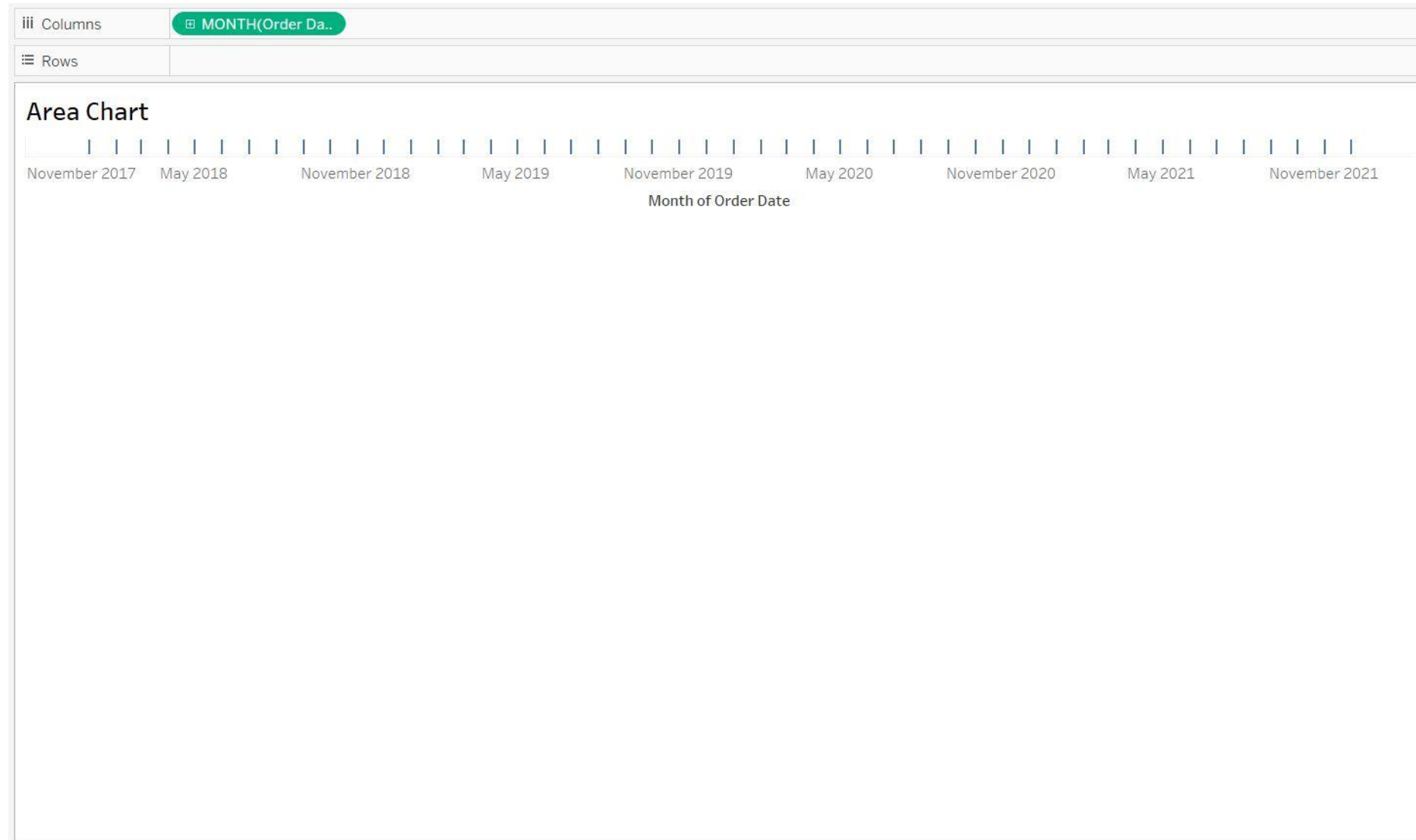**Color:**   Dimension

STEPS TO CREATE AN AREA CHART

Step 1: Right-click and drag & drop the **Order Date** to **Columns** Shelf
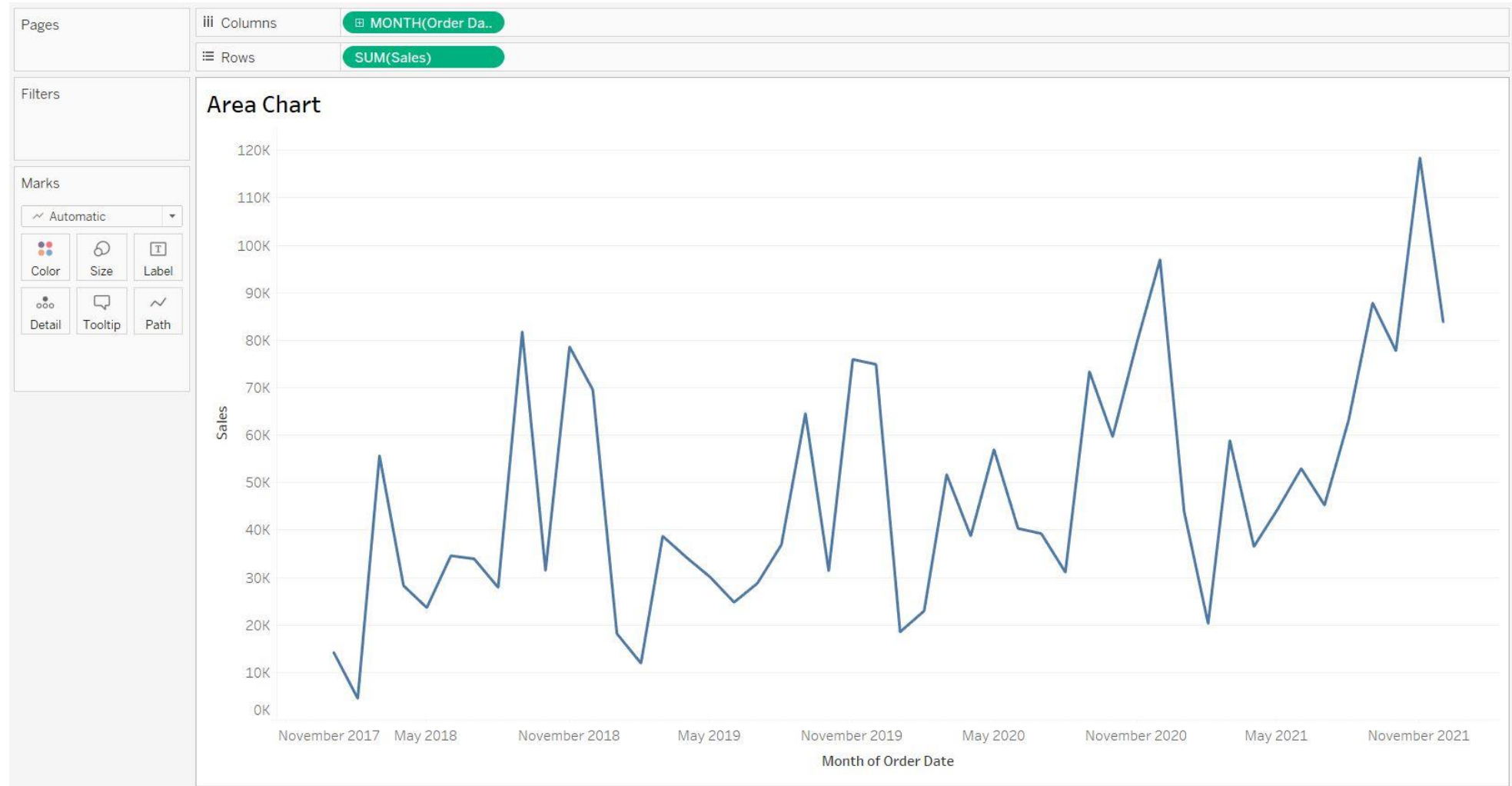Select the data value **MONTH**

STEPS TO CREATE AN AREA CHART

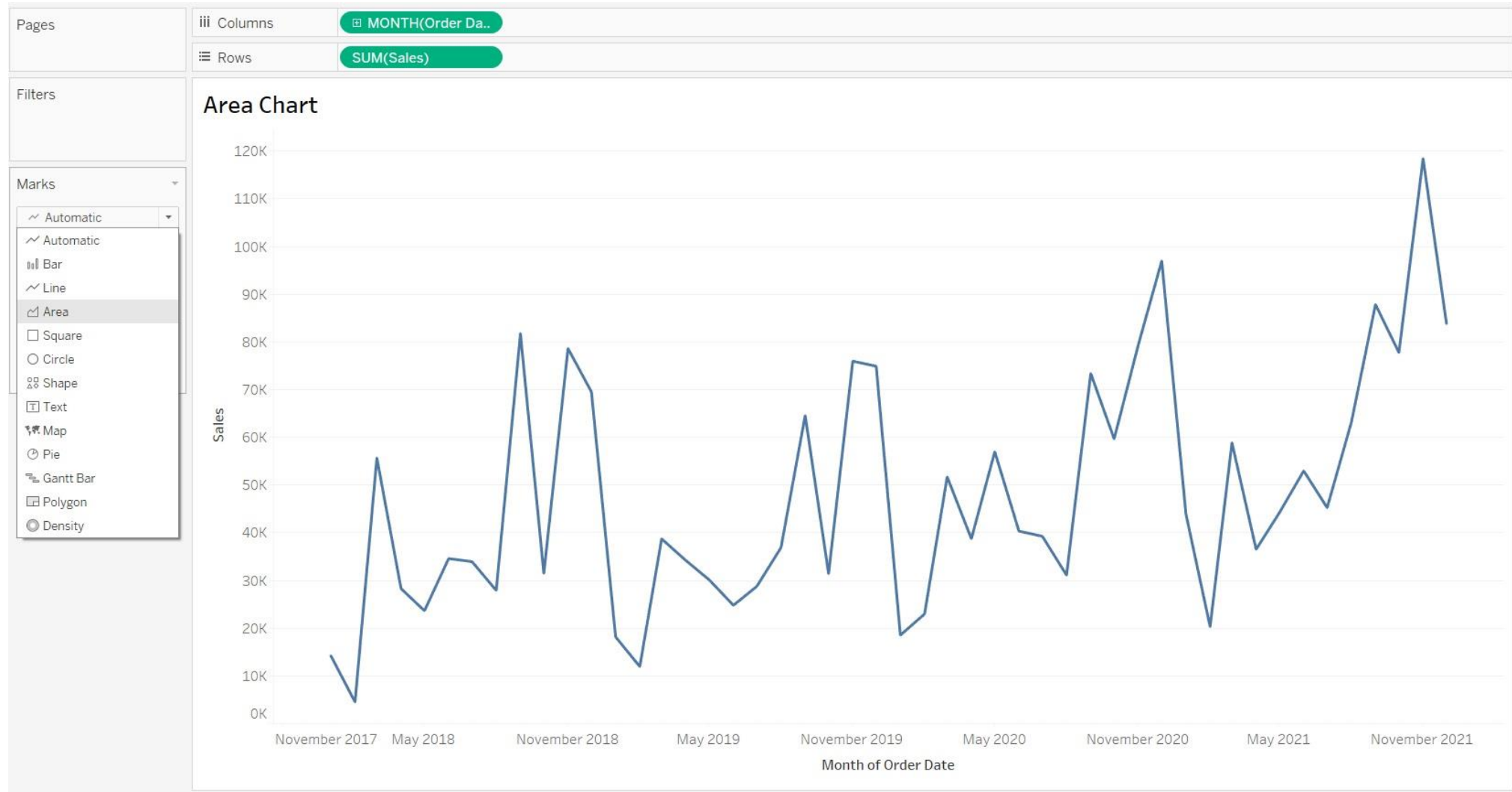**Step 2:** Now the **MONTH(Order Date)** is present in **Columns** Shelf

STEPS TO CREATE AN AREA CHART

Step 3: Drag and drop the **Sales** to **Rows** Shelf
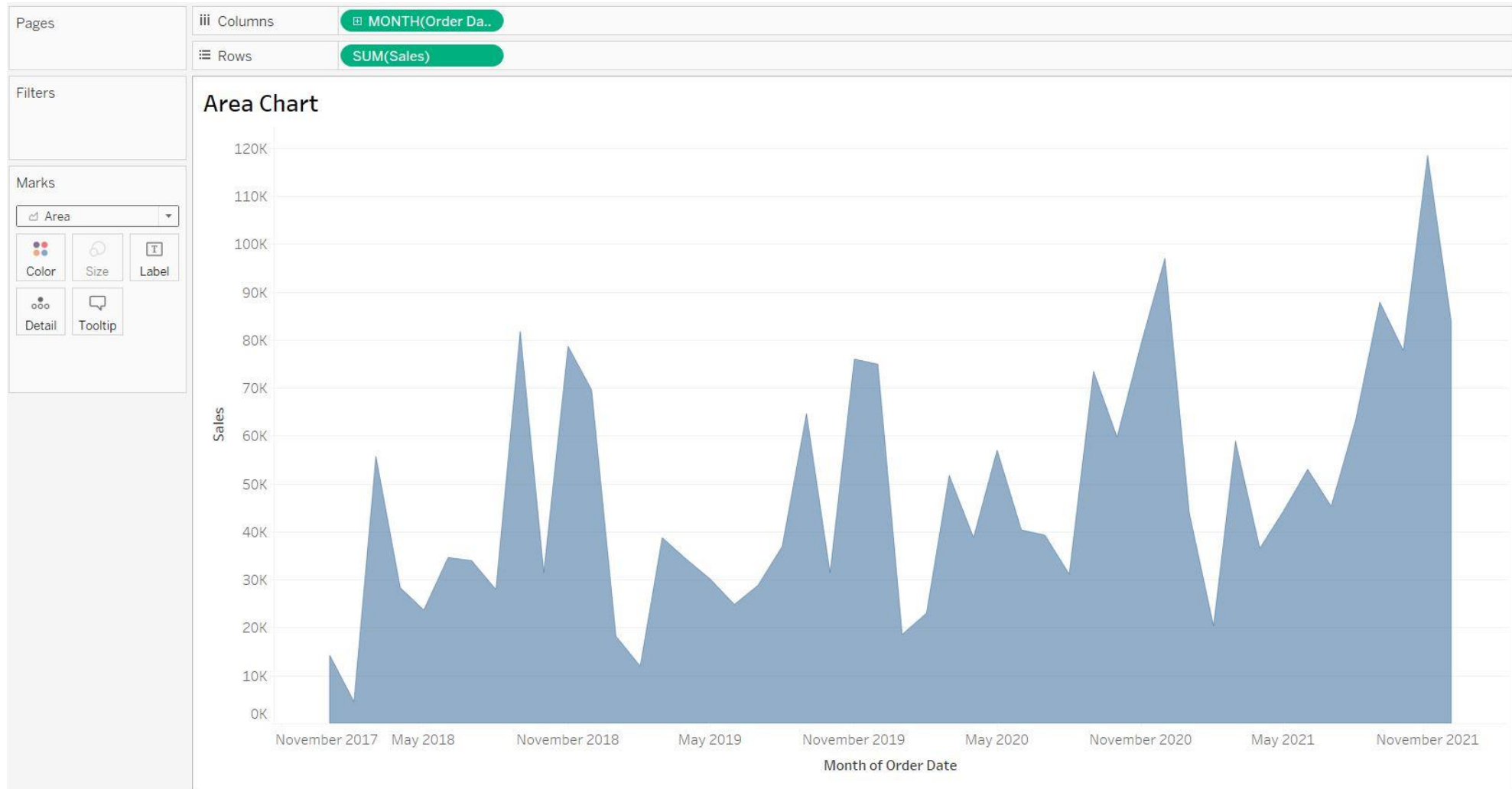
STEPS TO CREATE AN AREA CHART

Step 4: On the **Marks** card, click the Mark Type drop-down and select **Area**.
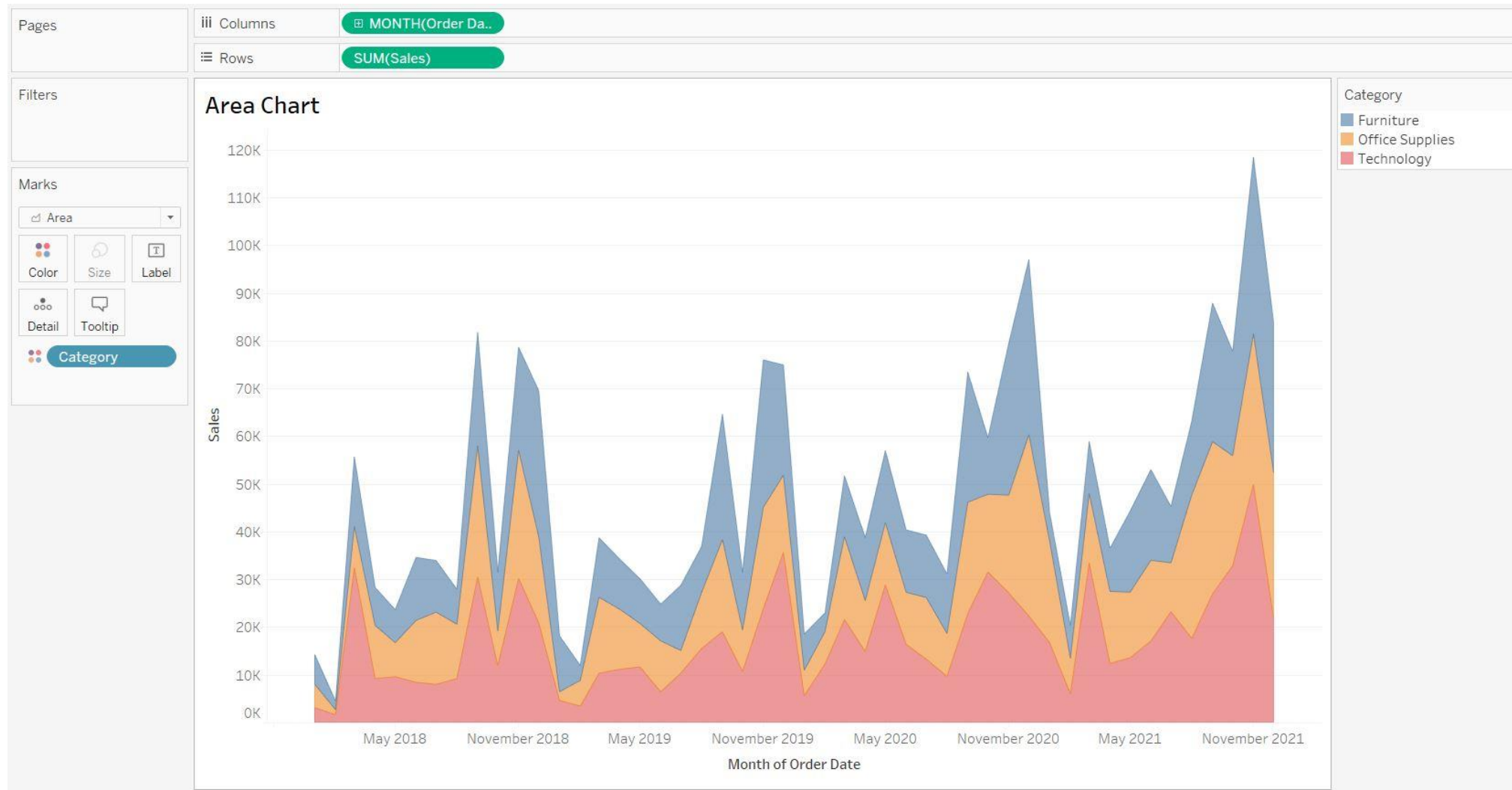
STEPS TO CREATE AN AREA CHART

Step 5: Now the view has the overall **Sales** is shown as an **Area Chart**
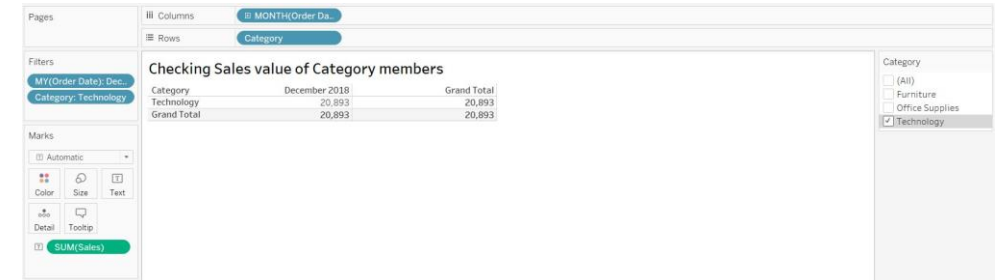
STEPS TO CREATE AN AREA CHART

Step 6: Drag and drop **Category** to **Color** on **Marks** card
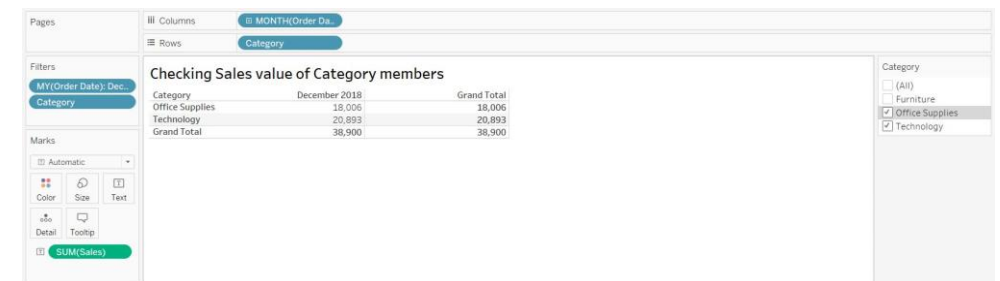Observe the colors legend in the right side of the view

STEPS TO CREATE AN AREA CHART

Step 7: Compare the **Sales** value for each **Category** from **Area Chart** with a **Cross tab**s for a specific **Month & Year** e.g: **December 2018**
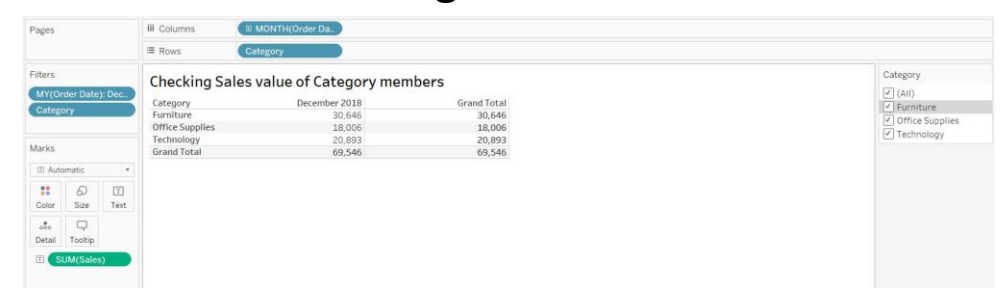

NOTE: *For each category we can add **Reference Lines at points** where the chart intersects **December 2018** (to cross-check the value with Cross tabs)*

It is confirmed that an area chart represents accumulated totals over time