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# 3.4 Pivot Charts: Grouping Items

## Pivot charts

A **pivot chart** provides a graphical representation of a pivot table. It reflects the same filters and structure, allowing interactive visual analysis. Pivot charts automatically update when the underlying pivot table changes【268199141166436†L253-L295】.

## Grouping items

* **Group dates** into months, quarters or years to see trends at different granularities.
* **Group numeric bins** to summarise ranges (for example, age groups).

Group by selecting items in the pivot table, right‑clicking and choosing **Group**. The pivot chart will display grouped categories.

## Chart types

Pivot charts support column, bar, line, area and other standard chart types. Scatter and bubble charts are not supported【268199141166436†L253-L295】.

## Example

Create a pivot chart from a pivot table summarising sales by date. Group the dates into quarters and observe the seasonal trend. The chart updates as filters change.

## Summary

Pivot charts enable visual exploration of pivot table summaries. Grouping items allows different levels of aggregation, revealing patterns not apparent in raw data【268199141166436†L253-L295】.

## Reflection questions

1. How do pivot charts differ from standard charts?
2. Describe how to group dates in a pivot chart.
3. Why might scatter charts be disallowed for pivot charts?

## References