

# What's the difference between Raphael and gRaphael?

Asked 12 years, 8 months ago   Modified 12 years, 2 months ago

Viewed 2k times



I'm sure I'm just being dim, but what's the difference between [Raphael](#) and [gRaphael](#)?

6



I can't tell from reading their homepages (the gRaphael homepage just says "based on Raphaël graphics library"), and Google isn't helping either.



javascript

raphael

graphael

Share

Improve this question

Follow

asked Apr 18, 2012 at 12:50



Richard

32.8k ● 30 ● 111 ● 146

- 4 *"gRaphaël's goal is to help you create stunning charts on your website."* and *"Raphaël is a small JavaScript library that should simplify your work with vector graphics on the web."* One is for charts, the other for vector graphics. One uses the other. – [Felix Kling](#) Apr 18, 2012 at 12:52

When I read the title, I thought we were talking about 2 SO users for some reason lol. – [Oscar Gomez](#) Apr 18, 2012 at 12:53

### 3 Answers

Sorted by:

Highest score (default)



15



[Raphaël](#) is a vector-graphics library, used to manipulate vector-graphics markup (SVG/VML) rendered in a an HTML page. Using this you can create and add SVG/VML elements to the DOM and further manipulate elements inside it.



[gRaphaël](#) is an extension to Raphaël adding graphs to Raphaël's concept of [Paper](#). Think *\*Graph\*aël*. So gRaphaël works only if Raphaël is loaded, and uses it in drawing the actual graphs. gRaphaël can be used for creating charts in SVG and currently supports chart types like line, bar, pie, and dot.

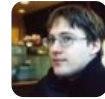
If you don't want to make any of these chart types you should just use Raphaël directly to draw whatever it is you are designing. In some cases, like defining colors, stroke attributes and putting some overlayed items on your chart such as title text, you will need to learn a little of Raphaël's api to use gRaphaël effectively. You'll find documentation for the former better written and poured over by more people than that of the latter. They are both by the same author however, likely gRaphaël was a demonstration of the base library, which it seems was aimed at simplifying programatic use of SVG.

If you're only interested in drawing SVG charts and graphs, you might also be interested in [Google's Chart Tools](#).

Share Improve this answer

Follow

edited Sep 28, 2012 at 22:56



[dlamblin](#)

45.3k ● 22 ● 104 ● 144

answered Apr 18, 2012 at 13:03



[Diode](#)

25.1k ● 8 ● 42 ● 51



2

gRaphaël is a **chart creating library** that uses general drawing library Raphaël.

Share Improve this answer

Follow

answered Apr 18, 2012 at 12:52



[Oleg V. Volkov](#)

22.3k ● 4 ● 47 ● 68



1

Graphael is only for graphs, Raphael is more general.

Share Improve this answer

Follow

answered Apr 18, 2012 at 12:51



[Rich Bradshaw](#)

72.9k ● 46 ● 186 ● 241



