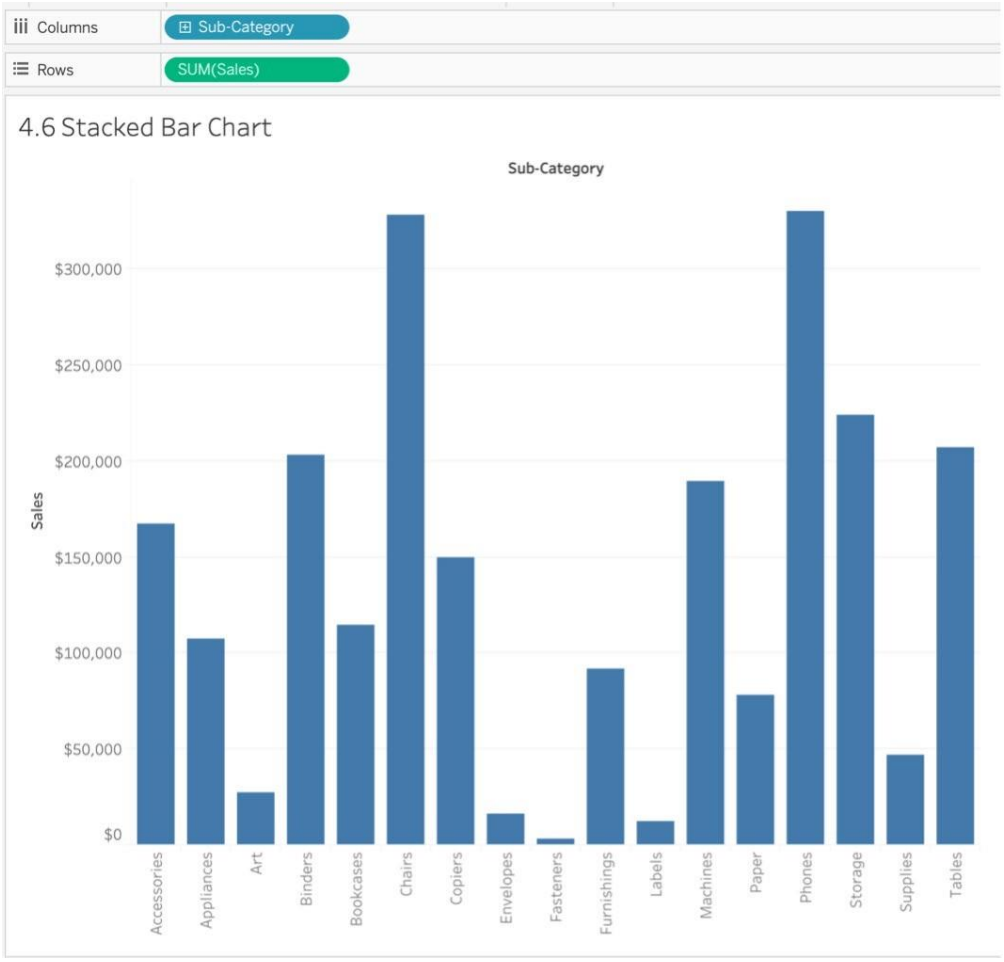
EXERCISE 06: Creating a Stacked Bar Chart

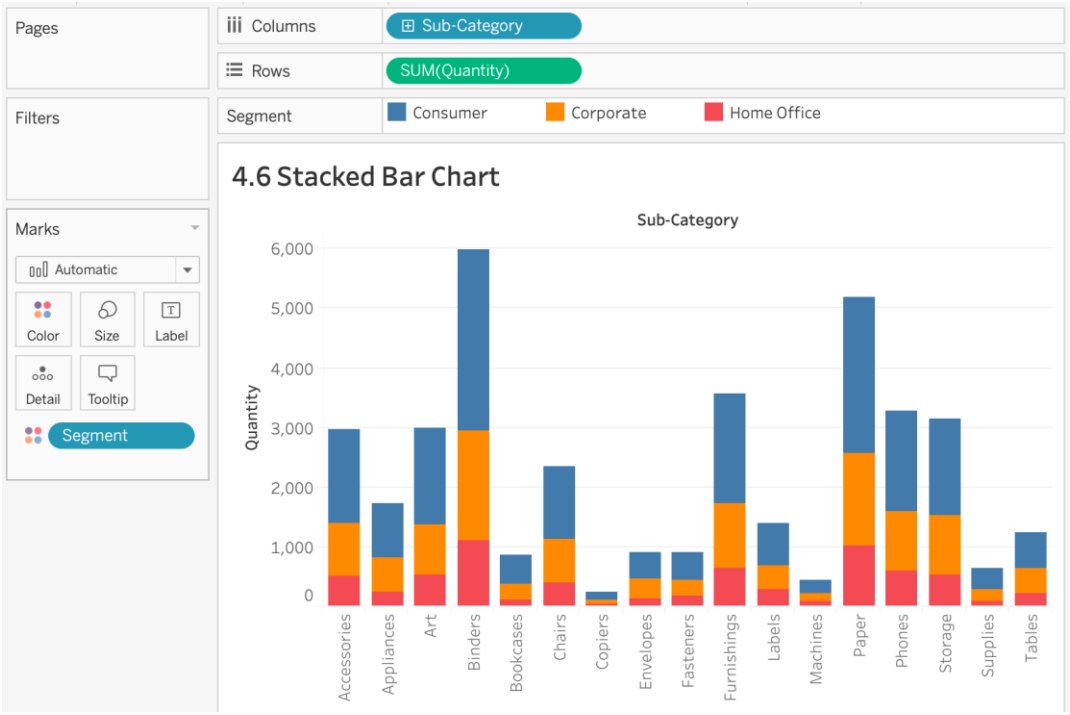
In this new request from your direct manager, they want to look at sales by sub-category in bar chart format, where the sales sub-categories are segments by color. Essentially, the manager expects a stacked bar for each sub-category, split into segments. You will continue to utilize the **Superstore** dataset for this exercise.

Perform the following steps to complete the exercise:

1. Load the **Orders** table from the sample **Superstore** dataset if it's not already open in your Tableau instance.
2. Drag one of the measures to the **Rows** shelf. This exercise uses **Sales**, but you can use any of the measures in your own projects.
3. Drag **Sub-Category** to the **Columns** shelf, and now you shall have a simple bar chart for sales by sub-category.

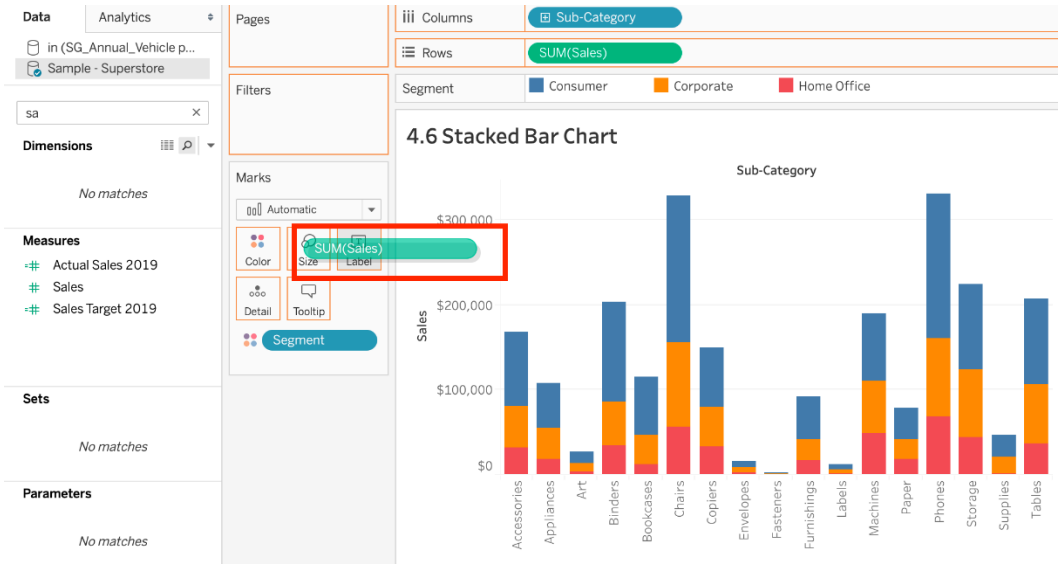


4. To convert this bar chart into a stacked bar chart, select one of the dimensions (either **YEAR[Order Date]** or **Segment**) and drag it to the **Color Marks** card as shown here:



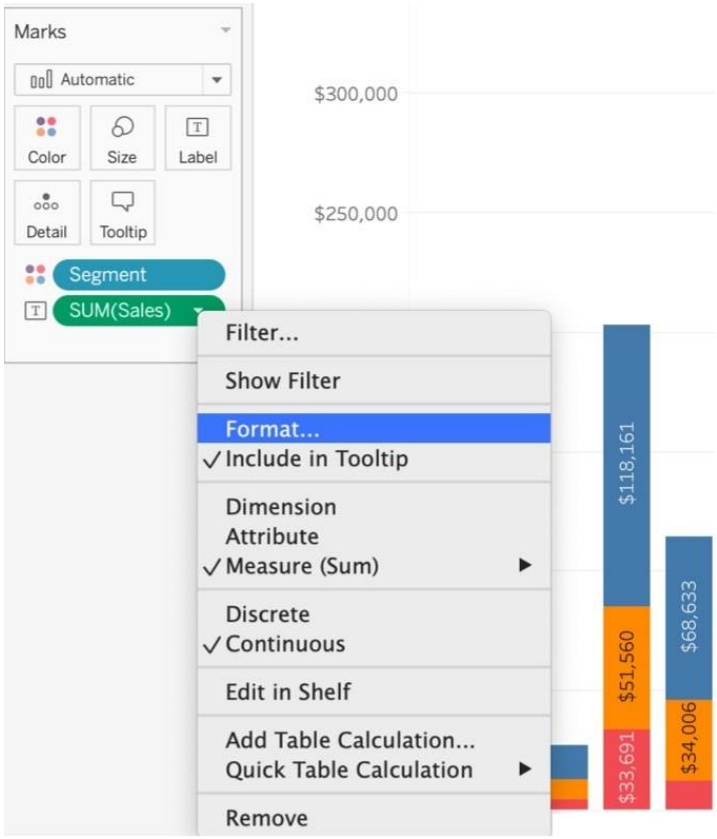
You have now essentially converted your simple bar chart into a stacked bar chart as you have color-coded or stacked multiple bars on top of each other by segment. **Chairs** and **Phones** were the highest-grossing sub-categories, but it is not clear which of those segments contributed more; so, next, you will add more elements to your stacked bar chart for readability.

5. Add **SUM(Sales)** as a label for your bars. Drag **Sales** from the **Measures** data pane to the **Label Marks** card:

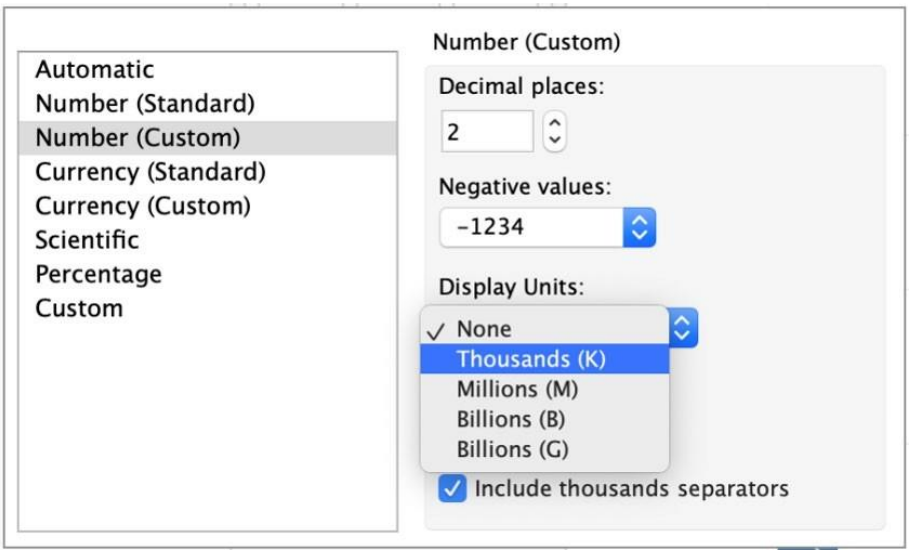


6. You might notice that the **Sales** label is taking a lot of space in our bars. The reason it is taking so much space is that the unit of **Sales** is tens, but considering that most of your sales are greater than 1,000, you can change the unit from tens to thousands so it is easier to read and saves you some real estate.

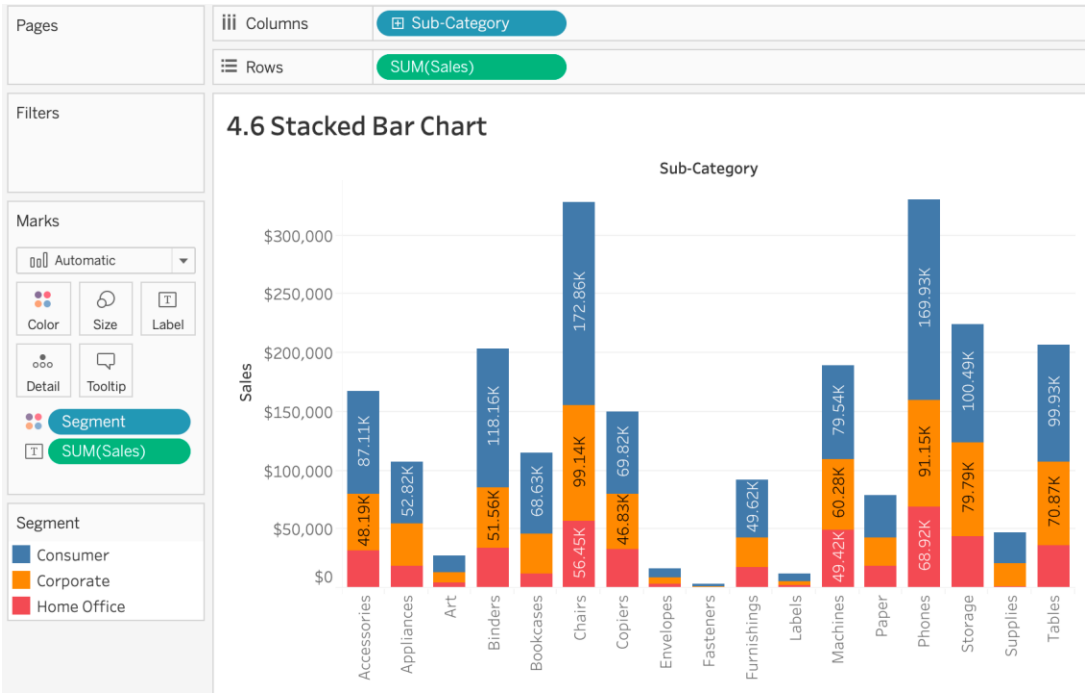
7. To change the unit for the **Sales** figures, navigate to **SUM(Sales)** in the **Marks** card. Right-click and select **Format**.



8. In the default section of the dialog box, click on the **Numbers** dropdown, select **Numbers(Custom)**, and change **Display Units** from **None** to **Thousands(K)**:



The stacked bar chart will now look as follows:



> **NOTE**
>
> In the preceding figures, you might notice that the smaller bars have no information embedded inside them. This is a limitation of Tableau. When you hover over the smaller bars, Tableau will display the information you need.

In this exercise, you looked at how to create a stacked bar graph. This is probably one of the easiest charts to build in Tableau, but it is an incredibly useful choice when you want to answer questions about parts against the total.