Format Animations

Animate visualizations to better highlight changing patterns in your data, reveal spikes and outliers, and see how data points cluster and separate.

Animations visually transition between filter, sort, and zoom settings, different pages, and changes to filter, parameter, and set actions. As visualizations animate in response to these changes, viewers can more clearly see how data differs, helping them make better informed decisions.

Understanding simultaneous and sequential animations

When you author animations, you can choose between two different styles: simultaneous or sequential. Here are examples of each type.

Simultaneous animations

The default simultaneous animations are faster and work well when showing value changes in simpler charts and dashboards.

{#animations.gif}
[Click the image above to replay the animation.]{.caption}

Sequential animations

Sequential animations take more time but make complex changes clearer by presenting them step-by-step.
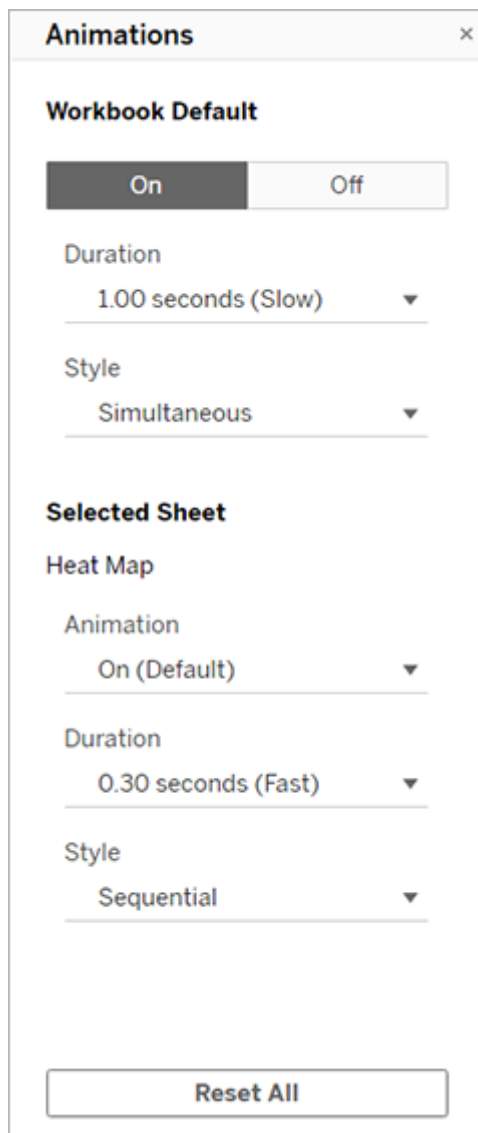
{#animations_sequential.gif}
[Click the image above to replay the animation.]{.caption}

Animate visualizations in a workbook

1. Choose [Format] > [Animations].

2. If you want to animate every sheet, under [Workbook Default], click [On]. Then do the following:

   - For [Duration], choose a preset, or specify a custom duration of up to 10 seconds.

   - For [Style], choose [Simultaneous] to play all animations at once or [Sequential] to fade out marks, move and sort them, and then fade them in.

3. To override workbook defaults for a particular sheet, change the settings under [Selected Sheet].

   Note: In the Selected Sheet section, "(Default)" indicates a setting that automatically reflects the related Workbook Default setting.

Reset animation settings for a workbook

You can reset animations to return an entire workbook to the default animation settings. Be aware that this turns animations off by default.

1. Choose [Format] > [Animations].

2. At the bottom of the [Animations] pane, click [Reset All].

Completely disable all animations

If you find animations distracting while viewing vizzes, you can completely disable them so they never play. (This isn't a system-wide setting; each user needs to apply it separately.)

- In Tableau Desktop, choose [Help] > [Settings and Performance], and deselect [Enable Animations].

- In Tableau Online or Tableau Server, click your profile image or initials in the top right corner of the browser, and choose [My Account Settings]. Then scroll down to the bottom of the page, deselect [Enable animations], and click [Save Changes].

Note: When animations are disabled, you can still choose [Format] > [Animations] in authoring mode and adjust settings---but they will have no effect.

Why animations sometimes won't play

Animations won't play if a viz is server-rendered. To ensure that vizzes render on a client computer or mobile device, use these techniques:

- If you're a viz author, reduce viz complexity[(Link opens in a new window)].

- If you're a Tableau Server administrator, increase the complexity threshold for client-side rendering[(Link opens in a new window)].

Note: On computers with lower processing power, animations may appear choppy, but users can continue to interact with vizzes without any delays in responsiveness.

Unsupported browsers and features

Animations are supported by all web browsers except Internet Explorer.

The following Tableau features don't animate:

- Maps and density marks in web browsers

- Pie, polygon, and text marks

- Axes and headers

- Forecasts, trends, and reference lines

- Page history