How to Create Quadrant Charts with Mermaid.js

Quadrant charts are a powerful way to visualize items based on two criteria, such as *impact vs. effort* or *value vs. risk*. With **Mermaid.js**, you can build quadrant charts declaratively using a simple syntax.

Step 1: Load Mermaid.js in Your HTML

Start by including Mermaid.js via a CDN and initialize it to render diagrams on load:

```
<script type="module">
import mermaid from 'https://cdn.jsdelivr.net/npm/mermaid@10/dist/mermaid.esm.min.mjs';
mermaid.initialize({ startOnLoad: true });
</script>
```

Step 2: Define Your Quadrant Chart

Use the quadrantChart keyword followed by a title, axis definitions, and item placements.

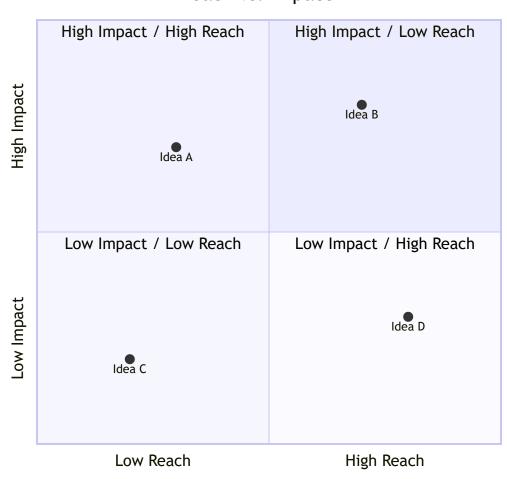
★ Basic Example:

```
<div class="mermaid">
quadrantChart

title Reach vs. Impact
x-axis Low Reach --> High Reach
y-axis Low Impact --> High Impact
quadrant-1 High Impact / Low Reach
quadrant-2 High Impact / High Reach
quadrant-3 Low Impact / Low Reach
quadrant-4 Low Impact / High Reach
"Idea A": [0.3, 0.7]
"Idea B": [0.7, 0.8]
"Idea C": [0.2, 0.2]
"Idea D": [0.8, 0.3]
</div>
```

Rendered Diagram:

Reach vs. Impact



Syntax Explained

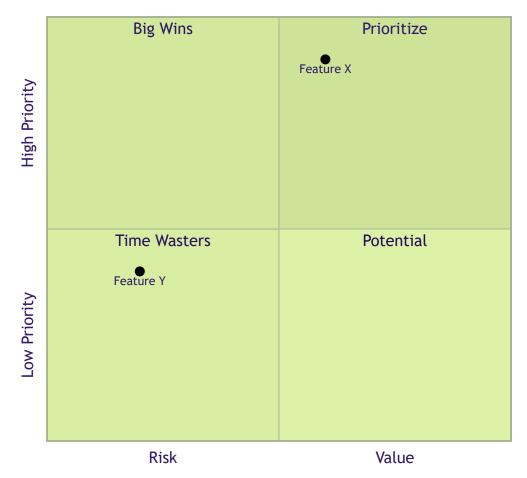
- title: Sets the title of the chart
- x-axis and y-axis: Define the horizontal and vertical axes and their direction
- quadrant-1 to quadrant-4: Provide labels for each quadrant (optional but useful)
- "Label": [x, y]: Plot a point with a label at the specified normalized coordinates (0 to 1)

Q Customization Tips

You can also apply a custom theme using Mermaid's init directive syntax:

```
<div class="mermaid">
%{ init: { "theme": "forest" } }%
quadrantChart
    title Custom Theme
    x-axis Risk --> Value
    y-axis Low Priority --> High Priority
    quadrant-1 Prioritize
    quadrant-2 Big Wins
    quadrant-3 Time Wasters
    quadrant-4 Potential
    "Feature X": [0.6, 0.9]
    "Feature Y": [0.2, 0.4]
```

Custom Theme



Summary

- Use quadrantChart to quickly visualize trade-offs and decision areas
- Axes values range from 0 to 1 for both x and y
- Customize quadrant labels to fit your context (e.g. strategy, product, UX)
- Apply a Mermaid theme for visual consistency

Resources

- Official Mermaid Quadrant Chart Docs
- Mermaid Live Editor Try it out interactively

Mermaid's quadrant charts are perfect for product managers, strategists, and UX designers who want to communicate priorities at a glance. Give it a try in your next dashboard or decision meeting!