■ Power BI Graphs & Golden Rules Cheat Sheet

Chart Type	Use Case / When to Use
Column / Bar Chart	Compare categories (e.g., Sales by City)
Stacked Column/Bar	Compare totals + subcategories (e.g., Sales by Region split by Category)
Clustered Column/Bar	Compare groups side by side (e.g., Male vs Female per Dept.)
Line Chart	Trends over time (e.g., Monthly Revenue)
Area / Stacked Area	Trend with part-to-whole (e.g., Revenue split by Category over time)
Combo Chart	Compare two measures (e.g., Sales + Profit Margin %)
Pie / Donut Chart	Proportions (max 4–5 categories, e.g., Market Share)
Treemap	Proportion with rectangles (e.g., Sales by Category)
Scatter Plot	Relationship between 2 variables (e.g., Ad Spend vs Sales)
Bubble Chart	Scatter + bubble size for 3rd measure
Histogram	Distribution of values (e.g., Age of Customers)
Waterfall	How values add/subtract (e.g., Net Revenue calculation)
Funnel	Stages of a process (e.g., Leads → Signups → Purchases)
Gauge / KPI	Progress toward a target (e.g., Sales vs Target)
Maps (Filled, Bubble)	Geographic data (e.g., Sales by Country/State)
Table / Matrix	Detailed view, like Excel Pivot Table

■ Golden Rules for Power BI Visuals

• Less is More – 6–7 visuals per page max.
• Pick the right chart for the story (Trend → Line, Comparison → Bar, Proportion → Donut, etc.).
• Use consistent colors (e.g., Sales always blue, Profit always green).
• Always label axes and legends clearly.
• Sort data logically (largest to smallest).
• Avoid pie charts with more than 5 categories.
• Use slicers/filters for interactivity.
• Highlight key insights (KPIs, conditional formatting).
• Keep axis names clean (rename 'Sum of X' → 'Total Sales').
• Dashboards should answer: What happened? Why? What next?