Using the GraphMaker add-on

The GraphMaker add-on creates extendable or stackable shapes that you can use in charts and graphs. Extendable shapes stretch a portion of the selected shape, similar to the Extend-O Hand shape in the Chart stencil.

Stackable shapes duplicate a shape when the stackable shapes width or height is increased, similar to the People and Stretchable Dollars shapes in the Chart stencil.

Creating extendable shapes
Creating stackable shapes

Creating extendable shapes

You can create an extendable shape that has either two or three pieces. Each piece can be either an instance of a master, a shape you draw, or a piece of clip art. You specify which shape is stretchable.

▶ **To create an extendable shape:**
1. Determine whether you want to create a two-piece or three-piece shape, and then drag the shapes you want to use onto the drawing page.

2. Arrange the shapes in the order you want them in the finished extendable shape.

   Tip: Its best to specify a simple, drawn shape as the stretchable portion. Some shapes may become distorted when stretched.

3. From the Tools menu, Run Add-on submenu, choose GRAPHMAKER ADD-ON.

   The GraphMaker dialog box appears.

4. In the GraphMaker dialog box, click the Extend-O Shape option, and then click Next.

5. Click Two-Piece to create an extendable shape from two shapes or click Three-Piece to create an extendable shape from three shapes.

6. In the Offset section, type a number in the Top box to set the distance of the top offset for two- and three-piece shapes. For three-piece shapes, you can also set the bottom offset in the Bottom box. The offset value determines the spacing between the parts of the extendable shape.

   Tip: If you want the extendable shape not to have gaps, use the default value 0.

7. In the Alignment section, select Horizontal to create a shape that extends horizontally. select Vertical to create a shape that extends vertically.

8. Click the Select Shapes button.

9. On the drawing page, select a shape for the right end of the extendable shape. In the Select Shapes dialog box, click OK.

10. Select a shape for the stretchable part of the shape. In the Select Shapes dialog box, click OK.

11. If you are creating a three-piece extendable shape, choose a shape for the left end of the shape. In the Select Shapes dialog box, click OK.

12. In the GraphMaker dialog box, click Create to create an extendable shape.

   If you want to create another extendable shape, click Yes at the prompt. To edit an extendable shape, right-click the shape, then choose Shape Properties from the shortcut menu.

Creating stackable shapes

You can create a stackable shape to duplicate a shape when the stackable shapes width or height is increased. You can create a stack with either a fixed number of shapes or a variable number of shapes that increases or decreases depending on the size of the stack.

▶ **To create a stackable shape:**

1. Select the shape you want to create as a stack.

2. From the Tools menu, Run Add-on submenu, choose GRAPHMAKER.

   The GraphMaker dialog box appears.

3. In the GraphMaker dialog box, click the Stack Of Shapes option, and then click Next.

4. In the Type section, click Smart Shape to create a stack with a variable number of shapes. The number changes when the stack is sized vertically or horizontally. Click Fixed Shape to create a stack with a fixed number of shapes.

5. In the Orientation section, select Horizontal to create a horizontal stack. Select Vertical to create a vertical stack.

6. In the Number Of Shapes box, enter the number of shapes to be included in the stack. The higher the number of shapes, the longer it takes to create the stack.

7. In the Spacing box, enter the amount of space you want between the individual shapes.

8. In the Scattering box, enter a value to offset alternative shapes in the direction the stack. Enter 0 if you want each shape in the stack to have the same vertical or horizontal alignment.

9. In the Length box, enter the length for a horizontal stack. In the Height box, enter the height for a vertical stack. If you enter 0, GraphMaker sets the default length or height.

10. Click Create to create a stackable shape.

    If you want to create another stackable shape, click Yes at the prompt. To edit a stackable shape, right-click the shape, then choose Shape Properties from the shortcut menu.