

How to Make a Line Graph

Name: _____ Date: _____

Choose to make a line graph when you want to see how changes to the independent variable over time affect the dependent variable. Here are the steps to making a line graph:

1. On graph paper, draw a set of axes. The horizontal line is your x-axis. The vertical line is your y-axis.
2. Give your line graph a title that describes your variables ("The Effect of Time Spent Watching Horror Movies on Heart Rate").
3. Label the horizontal x-axis with your independent variable (Time Spent Watching Horror Movies (in minutes)) and a scale with the values of the independent variable (0, 2, 4, etc.).
4. Label the vertical y-axis with your dependent variable (Heart Rate (beats per minute)). Use a scale from 0 to at least the highest number in your dependent variable results.
5. Plot a point on the graph for each piece of data. For example, suppose your heart rate after watching 2 minutes of a horror movie is 95 beats per minute. To locate the point on your graph, draw an imaginary vertical line from the 2-minute mark on the x-axis. Then, draw an imaginary horizontal line from the 95-beats-per-minute mark on the y-axis. Plot the point where the imaginary lines intersect.
6. Once you have plotted the points for all of your data, connect the points to form a line. So for example, suppose that after 4 minutes of watching a horror movie, your heart rate is 100 beats per minute; after 6 minutes, 105 beats per minute. Before watching the horror movie (0 minutes), it was 85 beats per minute.

The Effect of Time Spent Watching Horror Movies on Heart Rate

