Excel 2016 – What’s New?

Six New Chart Types
Visualizations are critical to effective data analysis as well as compelling storytelling. In Excel 2016, we’ve added six new charts—with the same rich formatting options that you are familiar with—to help you create some of the most commonly used data visualizations of financial or hierarchal information or for revealing statistical properties in your data.

Click Insert Hierarchy Chart on the Insert tab to use Treemap or Sunburst chart, click Insert Waterfall or Stock Chart for Waterfall, or click Insert Statistical Chart for Histogram, Pareto, or Box and Whisker.

Get and Transform (Query)
Before analysis can begin, you must be able to bring in the data relevant to the business question you are trying to answer. Excel 2016 now comes with built-in functionality that brings ease and speed to getting and transforming your data—allowing you to find and bring all the data you need into one place. These new capabilities, previously only available as a separate add-in called Power Query, can be found natively within Excel. Access them from the Get & Transform group on the Data tab.

One Click Forecasting
In previous versions of Excel, only linear forecasting has been available. In Excel 2016, the FORECAST function has been extended to allow forecasting based on Exponential Smoothing (such as, FORECAST.ETS() ...). This functionality is also available as a new one-click forecasting button. On the Data tab, click the Forecast Sheet button to quickly create a forecast visualization of your data series. From the wizard, you can also find options to adjust common forecast parameters, like seasonality, which is automatically detected by default and confidence intervals.

3D Maps
The 3D geospatial visualization tool, Power Map, is now available to all Excel 2016 customers and is built into Excel. It can be found along with other visualization tools by clicking 3D Map on the Insert tab.

Financial Templates
These templates track what you earn, how much you spend, and where your spending occurs. Plus, quickly analyze and compare the performance of selected stocks over time.

Calendar Insights Template
View your calendar as a dashboard and drill into the data.
PivotTable Enhancements
Excel is known for its flexible and powerful analysis experiences, through the familiar PivotTable authoring environment. With Excel 2010 and Excel 2013, this experience was significantly enhanced with the introduction of Power Pivot and the Data Model, bring the ability to easily build sophisticated models across your data, augment them with measures and KPIs, and then calculate over millions of rows with high speed. Here are some of the enhancements made in Excel 2016:

- **Automatic relationship detection** – discovers and creates relationships among the tables used for your workbook’s data model, so you don’t have to. Excel 2016 knows when your analysis requires two or more tables to be linked together and notifies you. With one click, it does the work to build the relationships, so you can take advantage of them immediately.
- **Creating, Editing, and Deleting Custom Measures** – can now be done directly from the PivotTable fields list, saving you a lot of time when you need to add additional calculations for your analysis.
- **Automatic Time Grouping** – helps you to use your time-related fields (year, quarter, month) in your PivotTable more powerfully, by auto-detecting and grouping them on your behalf. Once grouped together, simply drag the group to your PivotTable in one action and immediately begin your analysis across the different levels of time with drill-down capabilities.
- **PivotChart Drill-Down Buttons** – allow you to zoom in and out across groupings of time and other hierarchical structures within your data.
- **Search in the PivotTable** – field list helps you get to the fields that are important to you across your entire data set.
- **Smart Rename** – gives you the ability to rename tables and columns in your workbook’s data model. With each change, Excel 2016 automatically updates any related tables and calculations across your workbook, including all worksheets and DAX formulas.
- **Multiple Usability Improvements** – Delayed updating allows you to perform multiple changes in Power Pivot without the need to wait until each is propagated across the workbook. The changes will be propagated at one time, once the Power Pivot window is closed.

Quick Shape Formatting
This feature increases the number of default shape style by introducing new “preset” styles in Excel.

Insert Pictures with the Correct Orientation
With automatic image rotation, once you insert an image into Excel, it automatically rotates the picture to match the camera’s orientation. You can manually rotate the image to any position after insertion. Note that this only affects newly inserted images and does not apply to pictures in existing documents.

Tell Me
You’ll notice a text box on the ribbon in Excel that says **Tell me what you want to do**. This is a text field where you can enter words and phrases related to what you want to do next and quickly get to features you want to use or actions you want to perform. You can also choose to get help related to what you’re...
looking for, or perform a Smart Lookup on the term you entered.

Insights into What You’re Working on
The Insights pane, powered by Bing, offers more than just definitions. When you select a word or phrase, right-click it, and choose Smart Lookup, the insights pane will open with definitions, Wiki articles, and top related searches from the web. You can also get to Smart Lookup any time by going to Review > Smart Lookup and entering a query there.

Ink Equations
Including math equations has gotten much easier. Now, you can go to Insert > Equation > Ink Equation, any time you want to include a complex math equation in your workbook. If you have a touch device, you can use your finger or a touch stylus to write math equations by hand, and Excel will convert it to text. (If you don’t have a touch device, you can use a mouse to write, too). You can also erase and select and correct what you’ve written as you go.

Simpler Sharing
Choose Share on the ribbon to share your spreadsheet with others on SharePoint, OneDrive, or OneDrive for Business.

These changes bring together two key aspects of collaboration: who has access to a given document and who is currently working with you on the document. Now you can view both pieces of information in one place from the Share dialog box.

Improved Version History
Now you can go to File > History to see a complete list of changes that have been made to your workbook and access earlier versions.

New Themes
There are now three Office themes that you can apply: Colorful, Dark Gray, and White. To access these themes, go to File > Options > General, and then click the drop down menu next to Office Theme.

Data Loss Protection (DLP) in Excel
This enables real time scan of content based on a set of predefined policies for the most common sensitive data types (e.g., creator card number, social security number, and US bank account number). This capability will also enable the synchronization of DLP policies from Office 365 in Excel, Word, and PowerPoint, and provide organizations with unified policies across content stored in Exchange, SharePoint, and OneDrive for Business.