

Bar charts – choosing a scale

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

A **bar chart** shows frequencies as bars. Every bar must have the **same width** with **equal gaps** between them. The vertical scale shows how many — choose a sensible step (e.g. 1, 2, 5, 10) so the tallest bar fits.

- If the highest frequency is 18, a scale going up in **2s** to 20 fits cleanly.
- If you only have one or two of each, a scale in **1s** is fine.

ANSWER KEY

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| a) Football bar to 18. | f) Yes, but bars would land between gridlines (e.g. 18 between 15 and 20). Step of 2 is tidier. |
| b) Hurling bar to 12. | Q1: step of 5 |
| c) Camogie bar to 8. | Q2: step of 5 |
| d) Soccer bar to 14. | Q3: step of 10 |
| e) Basketball bar to 4. | Q4: step of 10 |

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

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| S1: step of 10 | S3: step of 5 |
| S2: step of 5 | |