

# Timeline

Timeline in power bi is a type of visual or visualization technique, it is used to define a data in the type of precision with respect to time, such as roster or completion of any given project, etc., it uses Gantt style charts to display the visuals.

## What is TimeLine Visual in Power BI?

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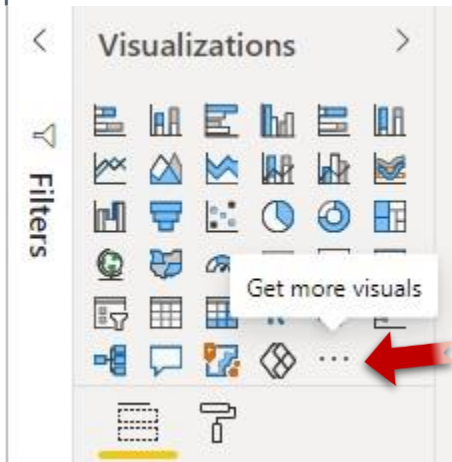
Power BI Timeline is a custom visual that we need to download from the web to use, this is not a default visual available to use. Timeline visual is a kind of slicer we can use it to select multiple ranges of data values and see specific period visuals. Timeline visual can accept only "Date" values and anything other than date values cannot be applied to this slicer.

## Power BI Timeline



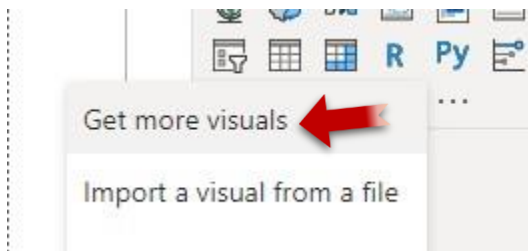
How to Import Timeline Visual to Power BI?

Since Timeline visual is not built-in visual to use we need to import from the AppSource. Click on the below ...

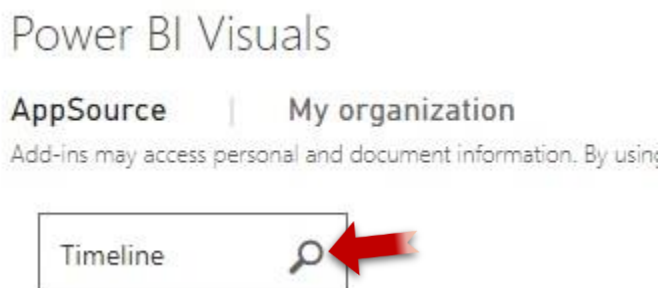


**Note:** You need to have PowerBI account, and need to sign in to download this new visual.

Select the "Get more visuals" menu item.



In the Power BI Visuals dialog box, key in the search keyword "Timeline", and press the search icon.



Add the Timeline Slicer as shown below:

# Power BI Visuals

AppSource | My organization

Add-ins may access personal and document information. By using an add-in, you agree to its Permissions, License Terms and Privacy Policy.

Timeline 

Sort by: Recommended 

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Advanced Analytics

Data Visualizations

Filters



Timeline Storyteller

Present different aspects of timeline data using a palette of representations, scales, & layouts.

★★★★☆

Add



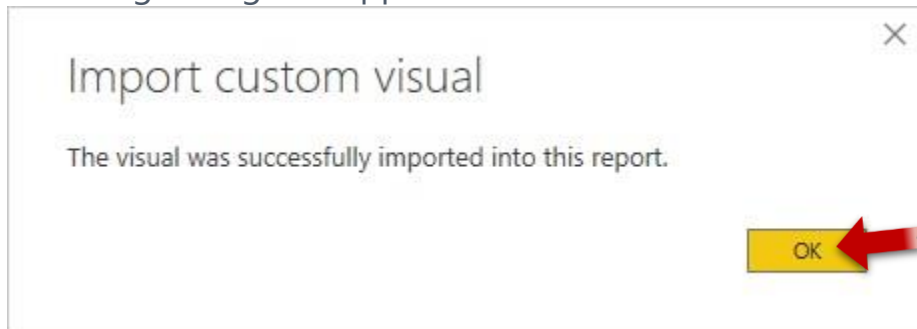
Timeline Slicer 

Graphical date range selector to use for filtering dates

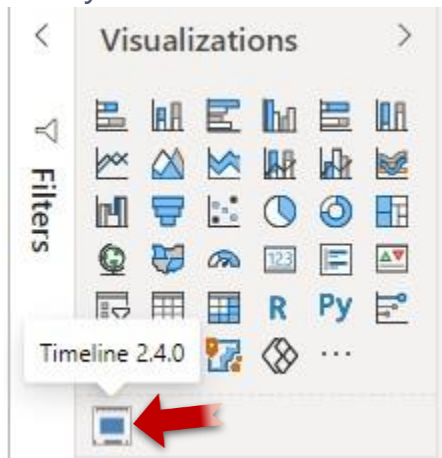
★★★★☆

Add 

This will bring you back to Power BI Desktop main window. Select OK when the following dialog box appears:



Now you should see this visual under visualization list.



To work with Power BI Timeline visual slicer we need "Date" values with associated data. Below is the historical stock price for the past two years of one of the prestigious bank.

	A	B	C	D
1	<b>Date</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Stock Price</b>	
2	18-Sep-2017	2017	270.40	
3	19-Sep-2017	2017	267.80	
4	20-Sep-2017	2017	270.05	
5	21-Sep-2017	2017	268.50	
6	22-Sep-2017	2017	261.85	
7	23-Sep-2017	2017	258.75	
8	24-Sep-2017	2017	258.25	
9	25-Sep-2017	2017	250.40	
10	26-Sep-2017	2017	252.55	
11	27-Sep-2017	2017	253.85	
12	28-Sep-2017	2017	251.30	
13	29-Sep-2017	2017	253.20	
14	30-Sep-2017	2017	251.60	
15	01-Oct-2017	2017	256.75	
16	02-Oct-2017	2017	256.85	

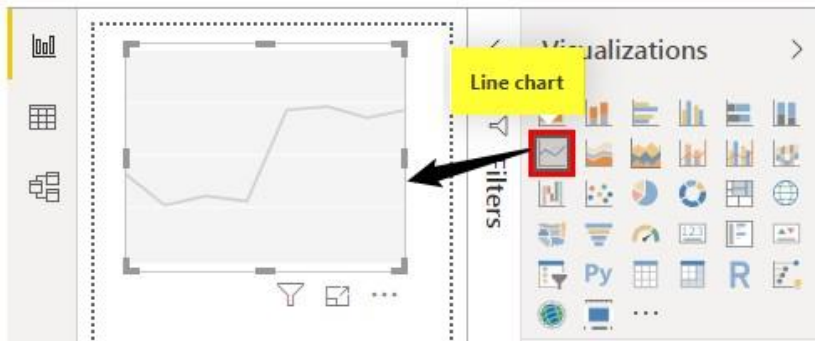
Copy and paste the data directly to Power BI or you can copy the data to excel file and then import to Power BI as Excel file reference. (You can download this Excel file from course site).

Date	Year	Stock Price
Monday, January 01, 2018	2018	268.5
Tuesday, January 02, 2018	2018	269.649994
Wednesday, January 03, 2018	2018	273.299988
Thursday, January 04, 2018	2018	272.600006
Friday, January 05, 2018	2018	276.049988
Saturday, January 06, 2018	2018	274.450012
Sunday, January 07, 2018	2018	267.600006
Monday, January 08, 2018	2018	268
Tuesday, January 09, 2018	2018	262.149994
Wednesday, January 10, 2018	2018	263.5
Thursday, January 11, 2018	2018	256.549988
Friday, January 12, 2018	2018	246.649994
Saturday, January 13, 2018	2018	256.799988
Sunday, January 14, 2018	2018	253.25
Monday, January 15, 2018	2018	252.850006

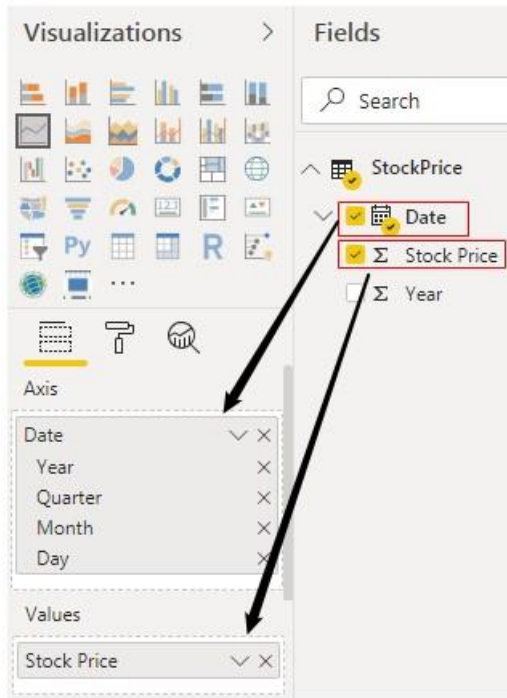
- Come back to "Report" view now.



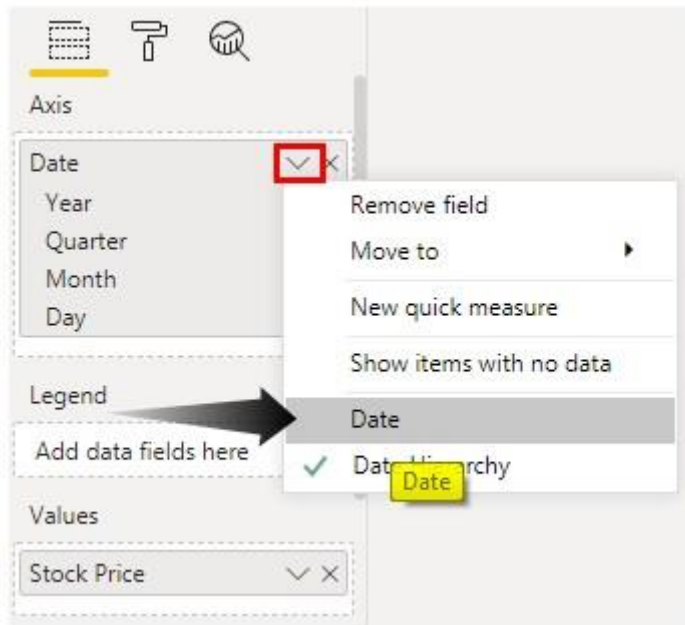
- Insert power bi "Line Chart" from the visualization field.



- For this blank power bi line chart drag and drop "Date" column to "Axis" field and "Stock Price" column to "Values" field of Line Chart.



- For date click on “Down” arrow and choose “Date” as the option.



- Now we can see the Power BI line chart as shown below.

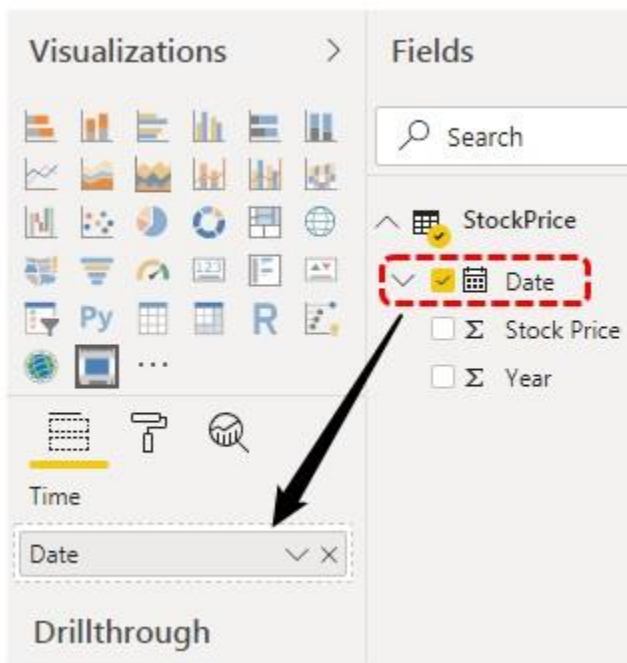


Since the data is too large we cannot see all the data here in the line chart, so by adding power bi timeline slicer we can configure the chart.

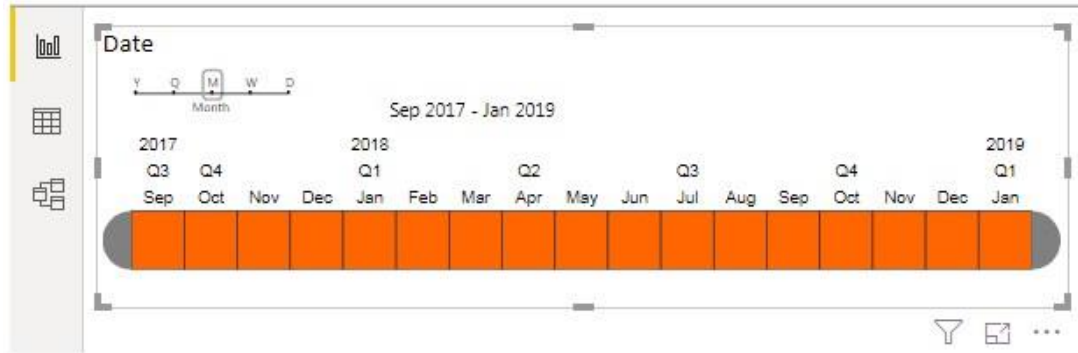
- Unselect the chart and insert Power BI “**Timeline**” custom visual that we have imported from the file.



- For this Power BI timeline visual, we need to drag and drop "Date" column to "Time" field of this visual.

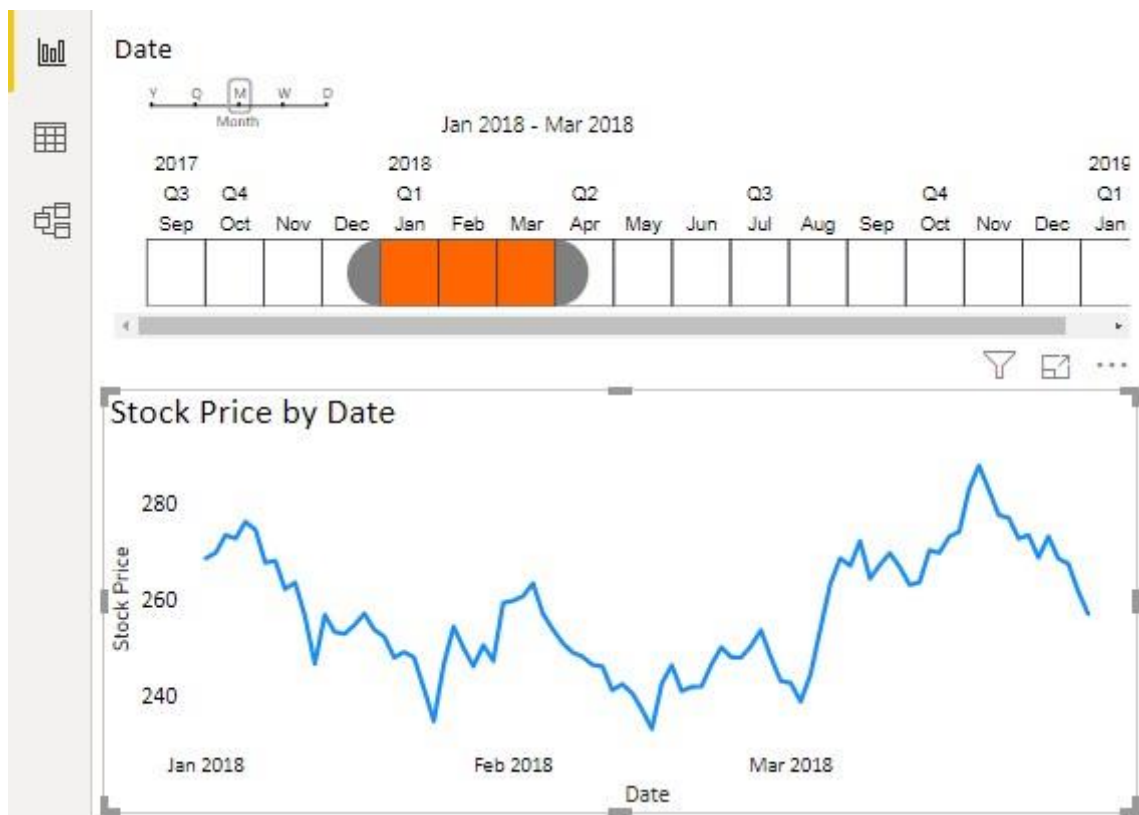


- Now take a look at the Timeline slicer and how it looks.



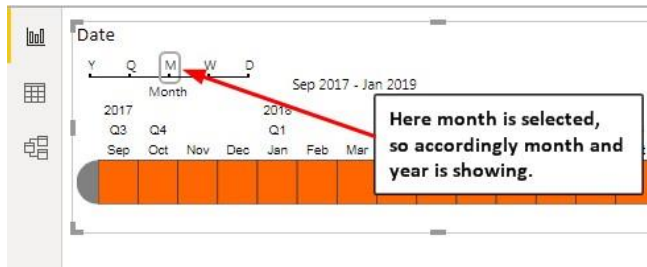
This Timeline slicer can interact with the line chart earlier that we have created. In the above slicer, we can select particular months and the line chart will show numbers only for selected months.

- I have selected Jan, Feb, and Mar under the 2018 year. Now, look at the line chart.

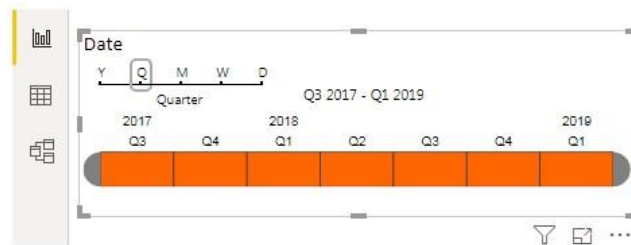


- Power bi Timeline slicer by default grouped into Year >>> Quarter >>> Month. We can change this under grouping in the same slicer only.



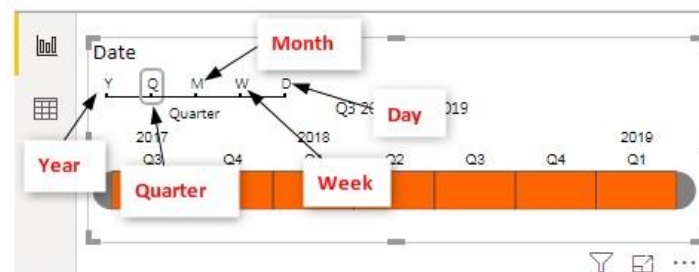


- Now I will choose “Quarter” and see how my Timeline slicer looks.



Since the “Quarter” is selected my Timeline slicer configured accordingly.

- Like this, we can configure the Timeline slicer by “Year, Quarter, Month, Week, and Day” wise.



## Things to Remember

- Timeline is a custom visualization works like a filter or slicer.
- The Timeline can accept only Date values.
- We can configure the Timeline slicer by Year, Month, Quarter, Week, and Day.