

Custom Spread Charts Using Studies

- [Introduction](#)
 - [Instructions](#)
-

Introduction

This page documents how to create custom spread charts using studies. A spread chart is a chart which is the difference between two or more symbols. There can be other calculations involved like multiplying one or more symbols by a particular multiplier.

This documentation is written according to the current version of Sierra Chart which at the time of this writing is 1919.

In the case of exchange listed spread symbols, it is recommended that you use one of the Sierra Chart Data Feeds and use the available spread symbols and chart those as native symbols. Refer to [Exchange Traded Spreads](#) on the **Real-Time Exchange Data Feeds Available from Sierra Chart** page.

You will need to use the **Add Additional Symbol** study and the Arithmetic studies which would include the **Study Subgraphs- Difference**. This is the most efficient way but there is not anything wrong with using the older method by using the **Difference (Single Line)** study.

Instructions

The following are the instructions to perform a calculation between two different symbols. These instructions support creating either Open, High, Low, Close bars or a single line.

These steps do not document each and every single detail but explain the basic steps. For additional details, click the links given.

1. Open a chart for the first symbol through **File >> Find Symbol**.
2. Add the additional symbol by selecting **Analysis >> Studies**.
3. [Add](#) the [Add Additional Symbol](#) study to the chart.
4. Set the **Symbol** Input with that study to the second symbol to be used in the spread calculation.
5. [Add](#) the [Difference \(Bar\)](#) Study to the chart if you want to create Open, High, Low, Close bars.
6. The **Chart 2 Number and Graph** Input with the **Difference (Bar)** study needs to reference the same chart and the **Add Additional Symbol** study added above. The name of that study will be listed as "Symbol: [symbol]". Configure the other Inputs as shown in the screenshot below.

Input Name	Input Value	
Chart 2 Number and Graph (In:4)	#1.ID3	
Chart 1 Multiplier (In:5)	1	
Chart 2 Multiplier (In:6)	1	
Chart 1 Addition (In:7)	0	
Zero Output When Non Exact Date...	No	
Use Latest Source Data For Last ...	No	
Zero Output When one Source Gra...	Yes	

7. Or if you want to create a single line for the difference/spread calculation, [Add](#) the [Study Subgraphs Subtract](#) study to the chart. Or it is also supported to use the [Difference \(Single Line\)](#) study. The advantage is that the **Difference (Single Line)** study supports using multipliers in the calculation. There is no performance difference between either one.
8. In the case of when using **Study Subgraphs Subtract** study, set the **Input Study 1** Input to reference the Main Price Graph and the **Last** Subgraph. Set the **Input Study 2** Input to reference the **Add Additional Symbol** study and the **Last** Subgraph.
9. Press **OK** to close the Chart Studies window.
10. More symbols and more advanced calculations can be involved to create the spread that you need by using additional instances of the [Add Additional Symbol](#) study and the [Arithmetic Studies](#).

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