

Data Visualization Resources

4.8.16

Reading

Highly recommended for your home library

The Functional Art, by Alberto Cairo

Communicating Data with Tableau, by Ben Jones

Make: Getting Started with Processing, by Casey Reas and Ben Fry

This is the classic quartet of books about data visualization and information design:

The Visual Display of Quantitative Information, by Edward Tufte

Visual Explanations, by Edward Tufte

Explaining Information, by Edward Tufte

Beautiful Evidence, by Edward Tufte

These books provide wisdom in the art of visual analysis, sketching, and data storytelling:

Naked Statistics, by Charles Wheelan

The Functional Art, by Alberto Cairo

Communicating Data with Tableau, by Ben Jones

Author Ben Jones likens the data visualization process to writing, and the chapters of this book:

On Writing Well, by William Zinser

Visualize This, by Nathan Yau

These books provide everything you need to know about best practices in graph design, from a business intelligence perspective (please note these rules are cognitive and perceptual, and translate from business to other domains):

Storytelling with Data, by Cole Nussbaumer

Creating More Effective Graphs, by Naomi Robbins

Show Me the Numbers, by Stephen Few

Now You See it, by Stephen Few

Signal from the Noise, by Stephen Few

The Wall Street Journal Guide to Information Graphics, by Donna Wong

How to ask questions and guide your team through a creative, exploratory process:

Gamestorming, by Dave Gray et al.

These books will help you create data visualization art and interactives:

Getting Started with Processing, by Casey Reas and Ben Fry

Processing: A Programming Handbook for Visual Artists and Designers, by Casey Reas and Ben Fry

Learning Processing, by Daniel Shiffman

Generative Design: Visualize, program, and create with processing, by Hartmut Bohnacker et al.

Interactive Data Visualization for the Web, by Scott Murray

Javascript Enlightenment, by Cody Lindley

This is the instant-classic book about Data Visualization in R, based on the *Grammar of Graphics*, a book popular amongst statisticians:

GGPlot 2, by Hadley Wickham

Websites for reading & inspiration

MAKE GRAPHICS WITH THESE TOOLS

[Google Sheets](#)

[Datawrapper](#)

[Chartbuilder](#)

[info.gram](#)

[Raw by Density Design](#)

[plot.ly](#)

[Quadrigram](#)

[Tableau](#)

[R + GGplot 2](#)

MAKE MAPS WITH THESE TOOLS

[indiemapper](#)

[carto.db](#)

[qgis](#)

DESIGN FIRMS

[accurat.it](#)

[fathom.info](#)

[periscopic.com](#)

[popchartlab](#)

[visual.ly](#)

[thenounproject.com](#)

NEWS & RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS

[Propublica](#)

[NY Times interactives](#)

[National Geographic Data Points](#)

[d3js.org](#)

[dirtdirectory.org](#) (directory of digital research tools)

INSPIRATION, LEARNING, & BLOGS

[seeingdata.org](#)

[Visualizing Information for Advocacy: Resources](#)

[Best excel and spreadsheet tutorials](#)

[Infoactive Data + Design](#)

[Data journalism handbook](#)

[datavizcatalogue.com](#)

[flowingdata.com](#)

[informationisbeautiful.net](#)

[storytellingwithdata.com](#)

[gapminder.org](#)

[Tableau Public Galleries](#) (download and investigate for learning purposes)

[thewhyaxis.info](#)

[visualisingdata.com](#)

DATA HEROES

[Alberto Cairo](#)

[Nicholas Felton](#)

[Edward Tufte](#)

[Nigel Holmes](#)

[Stefanie Posavec](#)

DATA SOURCES

[Universities, news, geographic, sports, world, government and politics, and general sources](#)

[Google search for tables online; merge tables online](#)

[drive.google.com/ fusion tables/ search public tables](#)

[Data atlas](#)

datausa.io (amazing new site for accessing government data)

knoema.com

[American Community Survey](#) (great for map data)

New Paltz data hub

newpaltz.libguides.com/c.php?g=328883&p=2460869

statabs.proquest.com/sa/

statabs.proquest.com/international/index.html

Country information and resources

newpaltz.libguides.com/countryinfo/websites

Fun and interesting data sources

[Flowing data: guide to data sources](#)

[Data is Plural](#)