

BUSINESS VITAMINS

Gantt Chart

VITAMIN DEFINITION

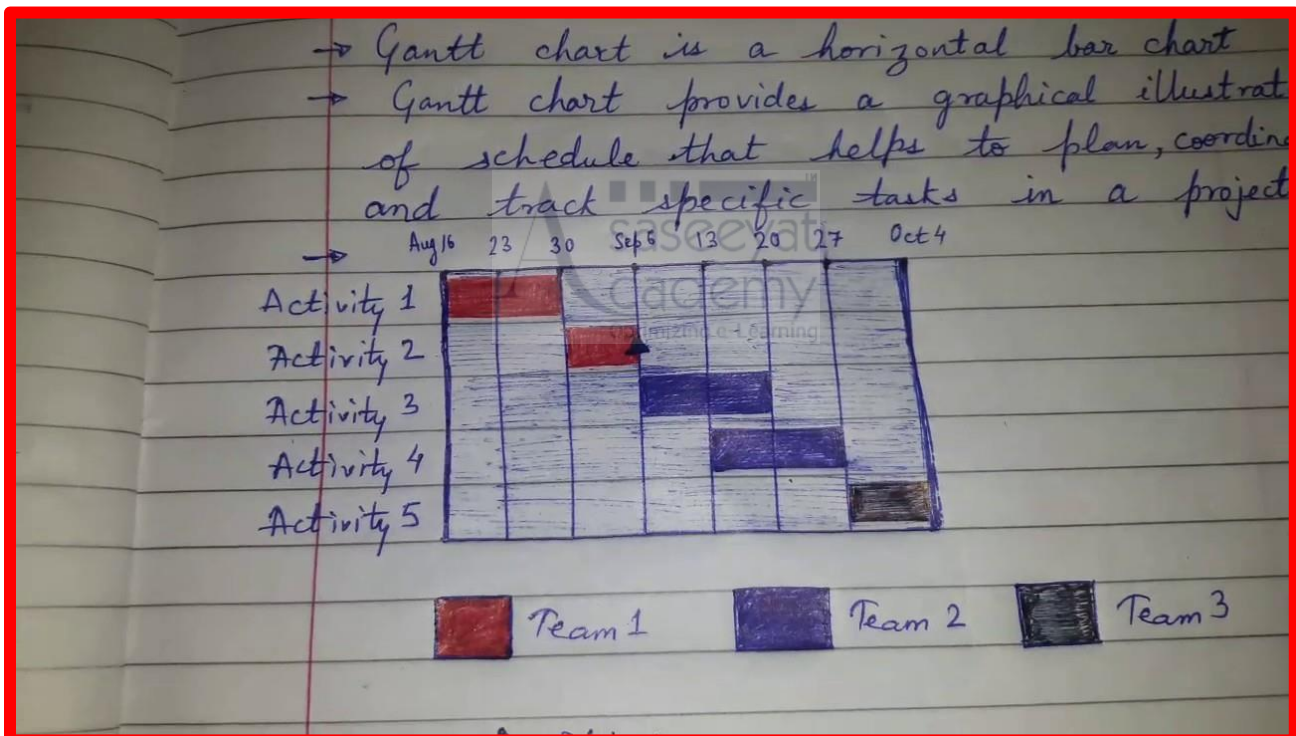
Gantt chart is commonly used in project management. It is used to have a timeline for a project. It is one of the most popular and useful ways of showing activities (tasks) displayed against time.

The first Gantt chart was devised in the mid of 1800s by Karol Adamiecki. He was a Polish engineer who ran a steelwork in southern Poland and had become interested in management ideas and techniques.

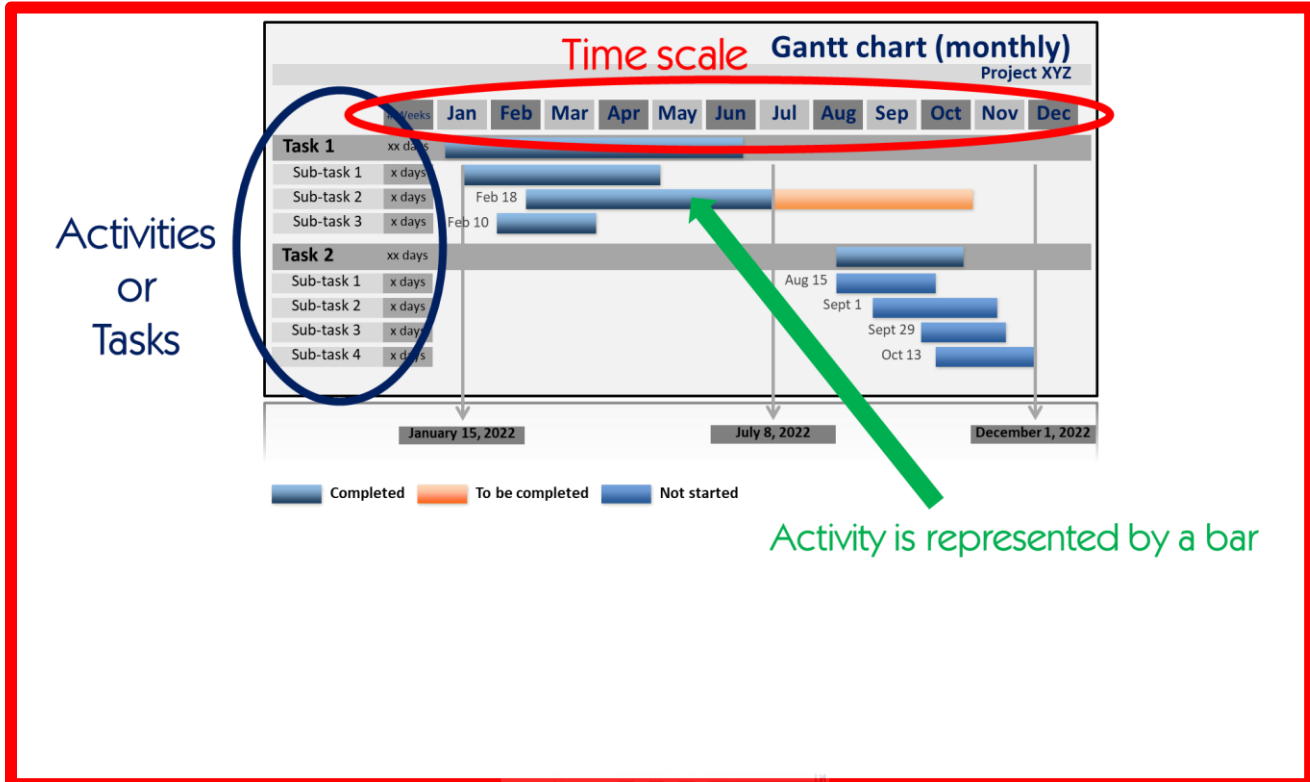
About 20 years after Adamiecki, Henry Gantt, an American engineer and project management consultant, devised his own version of the chart and it became widely known and popular in some countries. Consequently, it was Henry Gantt whose name was to become associated with charts of this type.

DETAILS

Originally Gantt charts were prepared laboriously by hand; each time a project changed it was necessary to amend or redraw the chart and this limited their usefulness, continual change being a feature of most projects. Nowadays, however, with the advent of computers and project management software, Gantt charts can be created, updated and printed easily.



The Gantt chart look like this



On the left of the chart is a list of the activities and along the top is a suitable time scale. Each activity is represented by a bar; the position and length of the bar reflects the start date, duration and end date of the activity.

The time line will oversee every aspect of the project while keeping a tracking of its progress. You will easily know who is responsible for what, how long each task will take and other problems that a team will encounter during the progress of the project.

The activity bar will provide information such as: Activity Starting date, Ending Date, Number of days. You also can add who is in charge for the activity.

The Gantt chart can be based on a different time scale such as annually, quarterly, monthly or weekly. Gantt Chart is one of the best ways to make sure the project team is working together towards a common goal while keeping everyone on the same page. As it provides a visual representation of the project progress, It becomes easier for the team and managers to analyze the project information. You can keep everyone including stakeholders, clients and team members on the same page for a sharing information smoothly for the success of a project. There will be no fuss and confusion during the project.