



# **Dashboards and Storytelling with Tableau**

*A Design Checklist of the Who, What, Why and How*

Good data story choices:

Identify the who, what, why, and how behind the storytelling projects

What key elements will drive your data story?

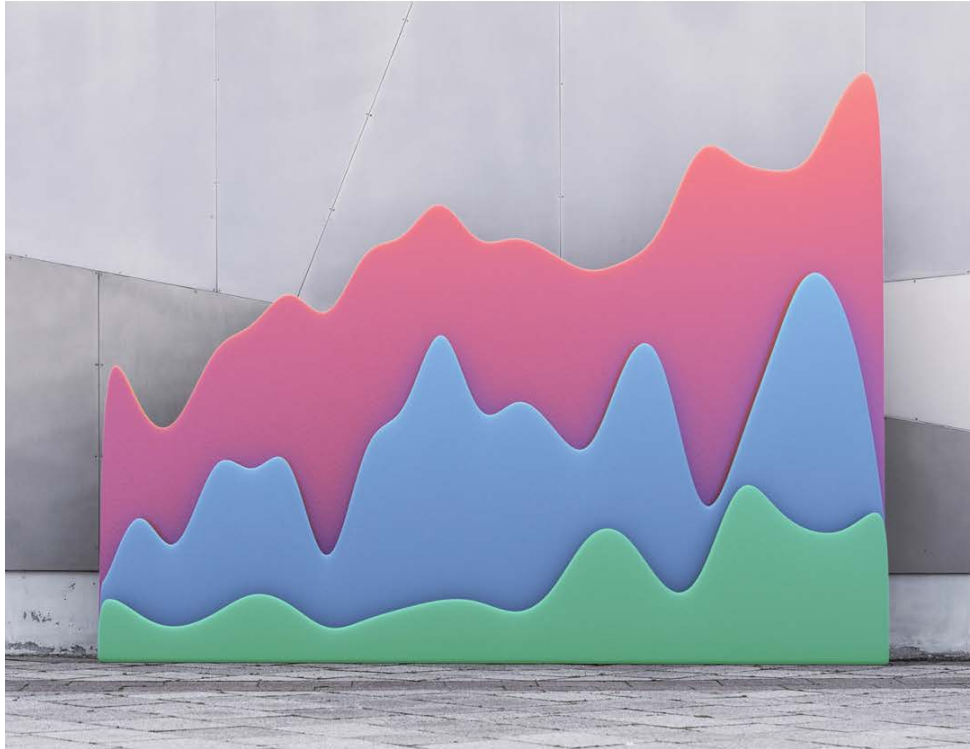




Who is audience?

Who are stakeholders?

Who are the SMEs?



What data is available?

Why includes goals  
and objectives

How includes point  
of view

Refine and optimize:

Who, what, and why  
lead to how

Keep a checklist of  
factors in play



Ask who in this scenario:


Audience: SVP  
of Sales Operations

Key Stakeholder  
or Presenter: Sylvia

Receivers:  
Executive Team

Contributors: SMEs





Ask what and why  
in this scenario:

What data set  
and use case?

Why? What's the  
purpose of creating  
your story?



Frame in context  
of the 3 Cs:

Context:

Acme year over year  
sales stagnate

Challenge:

Marketing campaign  
to get sales moving

Conclusion: TBD



Ask how in this scenario:

Format: Tableau story  
narrated by Sylvia

Timeframe:

Under 5 minutes

Parameters: 3 points



Stay fluid in Tableau:

Use variety of sources  
and options

Use Story Points  
to build and organize

Toggle to refine  
and optimize

Add or remove  
as the story requires

Iteration with Data, Views, and Stories



### Iteration with Data, Views, and Stories



Use only what's needed  
for 3 Cs

Be focused and selective:

- In presentation
- In how you extract and interpret data
- Draw correct conclusions

Ice cream sales  
correlate with crime  
but don't cause it

Look for variables  
directly related to cause

Find story to best  
explain correlation  
and cause

Be careful about  
conclusions





## Note Two Important Considerations:

1. Expressiveness: Do you have data to express story accurately?
2. Effectiveness: Does presentation style effectively convey data's meaning?