Graph Inspector
Graphics -> Graph Inspector

The Graph Inspector allow you to inspect and change attributes of charts. See "The Graphics Menu" on page126 for more information on how to create charts. To inspect a chart, select it by clicking on it. Choose **Graphics -> Graph Inspector** to open the graph inspector. You can also double-click on a chart to open the inspector. The Graph Inspector disappears when a graph is no longer selected.

The Graph Inspector contains nine basic views plus one view that changes depending on the chart type. This last view is called Current because it changes depending on the current chart type.

Name
Each chart has a unique name. You select a chart by name using **Sheet -> Goto Cell**. You can also print a chart by name in a report.   To change the name of a chart, select the name, be sure that the Graph Inspector is selected (i.e., the title bar is black, not light gray), type the new name, and press o. You cannot give a chart the same name as another chart in the worksheet. If you try to, Mesa will beep and the name will not change.

Labels
Labels are placed near the horizontal and vertical axis. They can be rotated. Rotating labels enhances the visual appearance of the chart and can be used to display labels that would otherwise overlap. Labels may be rotated using the sliders or by typing the desired rotation in the text fields and pressing **RETURN**.

Mesa automatically loads label text from the top row and left column of the data range. The check boxes in the Label Location area allow you to designate whether the top row or left column contains labels.

The font wells in the Fonts area of the view display the current font used to draw the labels on the X and Y axis. To change the font, open the Font Panel by selection **Format -> Fonts...** or by double-clicking in the font well. Build the desired font and double the font in the appropriate font well. The fonts of the X and Y axis can also be changed by dropping a font chip on the X or Y axis of the chart.

The Decimal Places area of the view allows you to change the numeric format and precision of the axis labels. The Label Position area allows you to select the vertical centering of labels drawn on the Y axis. Select the setting that looks best.

Titles

Charts can display titles on the top, bottom and left side. The First and Second titles are drawn at the top of the chart. The X Axis title is drawn under the X axis. The Y Axis title is drawn to the left of the Y axis and is rotated 90 degrees. Enter the text to appear in the titles. The font of each title can be changed by dropping a font chip in the font well or by dropping a font chip on the title of the chart. If Cell Reference is checked, the text is interpreted as an address and the contents of the cell at that address is displayed.

Orientation
The Orientation defines the order that the data will be accessed when drawing the chart. Horizontal orientation reads data "across" and additional data ranges are added under the base range. Vertical orientation reads data "down" and additional ranges are added on the right side.

Ticks

This view allows you to set how the format that ticks on the X and Y axis will be drawn.

Scale
By default, Mesa automatically chooses the largest and smallest X and Y values for data plots. You can change these values manually to enhance the appearance of a chart. To turn off automatic scaling, click the Auto Scale check box. Enter the desired scale values in the text fields and press o. Minimum and maximum values must be different, and range must intersect the zero point on the axis.

Grid
This view allows you to control the display of a light gray grid in the background of the chart. You can also select an optional black border around the graph area on the chart.

Range
You can add up to six discontiguous ranges to the base range of a data plot. Additional ranges will be added at the bottom or right side of the prior data range depending on the orientation of the chart. To add ranges, type the range into each of the six provided text fields.

Legend
This view allows you to place a data legend on the chart. The legend can be located on top, below, or on either side of the chart. The legend's font can be changed by dropping a font chip in the font well or by dropping a font chip directly on the legend on the chart. The color of the chart can be changed by dropping color chips on the legend or by dropping the color chips on the item that you want to change directly on the graph.

Current
Three chart types have special inspector views to change unique parameters. These views appear in the Current view depending on the chart type.

Bar and Column Charts
This view allows you to determine the width of the bar or column by moving the slider to select the desired width.

Scatter Charts
Scatter charts can be drawn with data points, lines, or both. Select the drawing method using the radio buttons. Use the slider to adjust the line width.

XY Charts
In addition to the chart options for lines and data point that Scatter Charts allow, XY charts allow you to select whether the Y values of the plot will be matched with a single set of X values or if they will be matched with the X values or the adjoining row or column. The default is a single X axis.

Parent Menu Graphs¬.