

# SOLAR FIRE GOLD

## How to create your own Chart Art pages

Chart Art page designs are a new feature of Solar Fire Gold. A number of Chart Art page designs are already included in Solar Fire Gold for your selection. However, you may want to create your own Chart Art page designs from a blank page. The following steps will enable you to create your own Chart Art page designs:

- Preparation - first, you need to decide what graphic you want to use as the background to your Chart Art page. Your background can be virtually any graphic but must be already stored as one of the following graphic file formats: JPG, BMP, WMF, GIF, ICO or EMF.
- For consistency of storage of graphic files on your hard drive, if you already have such a graphic file saved on your hard drive then it is recommended that you either copy it or move it to the “Pages” subfolder of your “Solar Fire User Files” folder. You can quickly gain access to this folder by starting up Solar Fire Gold then click on the “Utilities” menu item then click on the “Open User Files Folder”. This action starts up Windows Explorer and takes you directly to your “Solar Fire User Files” folder. You will see the “Pages” folder as a subfolder. Simply locate your graphic file stored elsewhere on your hard drive and “drag and drop” it into the “Pages” subfolder.
- Once you have copied or moved your graphic file into the “Pages” subfolder, click on the “X” at the top of the Windows Explorer window to close it and return you back to Solar Fire Gold
- Click on the “Utilities” menu item then click on the “Page Designer...” item and when it starts up, a new page will be displayed.
- Click on the “Page Size” menu item then click on the “Add New Page Size” item to see a list of Screen resolutions, Printer and User-Defined options
- Assuming you already have a printer connected to your computer, click on the “Printer” option so that the black dot moves to that selection then click on the “OK” button. This action will add the Printer page size to the top right corner of your screen in the list headed “Page Sizes”
- You now need to delete the Screen page size as it is not required for Chart Art. On the only “Screen” page size listed, click on it to highlight it then click on “Page Size” menu item then click on the “Delete Page Size...” item then click on the “OK” button to confirm the deletion. You will now return to the Printer page size you just added.
- On the right-hand side of the screen, you will see a list of properties for the “Page Properties” object. The first property list is the “List Abbrev” property and it has a value of “New”. Locate the Editing box just above this line. Type in the word “Art” in the Editing box, overwriting the word “New” then press the ENTER key on the keyboard to see the “List Abbrev” value change from “New” to “Art”
- Leave the next property “Chart1 Desc” and click on the “Margin Left” property to highlight it. Type in the number zero (0) in the Editing box then press the ENTER key on the keyboard to see it change. Type in a zero for the remaining three Margin properties. All four Margins should now have a value of zero (0). That completes setting up the Page Properties
- Click on the “Object” menu item then click on the “Add New Object...” item to see a list of objects that can be added to a page design. Scroll down and locate the “Graphical” heading of objects and click on the “Graphic” item then click on the “Insert” button. A graphic object will be added to the page
- You now need to make this graphic object the same size as the page. Using the mouse, move the mouse cursor onto one of the small red-colored squares and hold down the left mouse

button and move it so that it goes over the edge of the page. Release the left mouse button and you will see that the small red-colored square “snaps” back to the edge of the page. Do this for all four small red-colored squares so that the graphic object now covers the whole page

- On the right-hand side of the screen, you should now see the list of properties for the “Graphic (1)” object. Both the “Anchor X” and “Anchor Y” properties should have a value of zero (0) while the “Width” and “Height” properties should have a value of 1.
- Click on the “Frame Type” property and in the Editing box, instead of typing anything, click on the dropdown arrow to the right of the typing area and select the zero (0) option. You should see the “Frame Type” property value change from 1 to 0.
- The next and most important property for this exercise is the “Graphic File” property, which should have “blank” value. It is this property that links the Graphic object to a particular graphic file. Click on this property and in the Editing box area, instead of entering anything, click on the “>” button to the left and you will see a list of graphic files display from the “Solar Fire User Files” \ “Pages” subfolder. You should see your graphic file listed here as it was copied (or moved) in earlier. Double-click on your graphic file to have it associated with the Graphic object. You will now see that the “Graphic File” property will have a full file path to your graphic file, only partially displayed.
- As a tip, you can use more than one “Graphic” object on this same page where you might want to see a logo or a person’s photo. Using the same procedure above will accomplish this task though you would only size it as a smaller graphic object, not the full page as we have done for the background graphic.
- It is now best to give a name to your page so that you can locate this name it in the list of pages on the “Page Topic Index”. Click on the “File” menu item then click on the “Edit Page Description...” item then type in a suitable name of your page. Currently, Solar Fire Gold uses the name “Single Wheel with Art” for all Chart pages but you can use anything you like.
- At this stage, save your work by clicking on the “File” menu item then click on the “Save” item and since we have not yet assigned a filename to this page design, you will now need to type in a page design filename of your choice. If you want to follow the current naming convention for Chart Art in Solar Fire Gold, you might name your file something like “Art\_MyFirstOne\_Light”, where “Art” is the prefix followed by an underscore symbol followed by the name of this page design followed by another underscore symbol followed by a further description of whether the background is “Light” or “Dark”. This last item is optional but it does help to know what type of background there is so that you can later use either a light text color (like White) on the dark background or the default Black on a Light background.
- As this point, you can add various other objects, like wheels, captions, lists, grids etc. to complete your new page design. When you are finished, click on the “File” menu item then click on the “Save” item to save your work.
- To exit the Page Designer, click on the “File” menu item then click on the “Exit” item. This action will return you to Solar Fire Gold’s main screen.
- To access your new page within Solar Fire Gold, click on the “View” menu item then click on the “Page Topic Index...” item. All new pages are automatically added to the “Added Recently” page category. Click on the “+” symbol next to “Added Recently” to expand it and you should see your new page name including the filename in square brackets.
- If you want to now categorize it and move it to one of the other page categories, hold down the left mouse button while highlighting your new page and “drag” your new page over to your selected page category until you see “hand and pencil” mouse cursor. Now, release the left mouse cursor to “drop” your new page into that page category

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