Using Excel to graph data:

1. Place your data in an excel spreadsheet. The cells should contain data but no units. The units go at the top of the column

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rubberband |  |
| Force (grams) | Elongation (centimeters) |
| 10 | 0.01 |
| 20 | 0.2 |
| 40 | 0.4 |
| 50 | 0.6 |
| 80 | 0.9 |
| 100 | 1.2 |
| 150 | 2.1 |
| 200 | 3.1 |
| 250 | 4.4 |

1. Highlight just the data, not the column headings.
2. To get the chart click on: Insert > Chart > Scatter > Marked Scatter
3. To get the trendline click on: Chart Format > Trendline > Trendline Options
4. Then you decide which **type** of trendline you want to try: If it looks like a straight line try linear, if it looks more like a curve try polynomial. Also under **options** click on “display equation” and “display R squared.”
5. You can try multiple different trendline types to see which is the best fit. The best fit will have the R squared value closest to 1.
6. You then using the Chart Layout menu you add a Chart Title (Rubber Band in this example) and Axis titles (horizontal (Force(g)in this example) and vertical(Elongation(cm)in this example)).

Eventually you should have something which looks like this: