BFVZPowerGantt

Quick Start Guide

Get BFVZPowerGantt rendering your schedule in Power BI in under 10 minutes. Covers installation from AppSource, required data fields, baseline configuration, critical path display, and key format pane settings.

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Prerequisites

- Power BI Desktop (latest version recommended) or the Power BI Service.
- A schedule dataset in Excel, CSV, or any Power BI data source with task names, dates, and optionally dependencies, baseline dates, and resources.
- An active subscription (Creator or Viewer) or a 30-day free trial — start from AppSource.

Step 1: Install from AppSource

1. Open Power BI Desktop. In the Visualizations pane, click the ellipsis (**...**) and select **"Get more visuals."**
2. Search for **"BFVZPowerGantt"** in the AppSource dialog.
3. Click **Add**. The visual icon appears in your Visualizations pane.
4. Alternatively, visit the AppSource listing directly at **marketplace.microsoft.com** and install from there.

> ***Tip:*** *You can also import a .pbiviz file directly: click the ellipsis, select "Import a visual from a file," and choose the downloaded .pbiviz file.*

Step 2: Load Your Schedule Data

Click **Get Data** and import your schedule. At minimum, you need a table with task names and date columns. The more fields you map, the more features unlock.

Step 3: Map Data Fields

Click the BFVZPowerGantt icon on the canvas to select it, then drag fields from the Fields pane into the visual's data roles:

Required Fields (minimum to render):

Data Role	Description
Task Name	The name/description of each task
Start Date	Task actual or scheduled start date
Finish Date	Task actual or scheduled finish date

Recommended Fields (unlock key features):

Data Role	Description
Task ID	Unique identifier — enables dependency parsing
Predecessors	Dependency string (e.g., "100FS+5d") — enables CPM and dependency arrows
Planned Start	Baseline start date — enables baseline comparison ribbons
Planned End	Baseline finish date — enables baseline variance display
Progress	Percent complete (0–100) — enables progress shading on bars
Project Name	Project identifier — enables multi-project grouping and program CPM
Phase	WBS phase or group — enables phase grouping in the Gantt

Optional Fields:

Data Role	Description
Total Float	Float in days — enables near-critical path highlighting
Milestone Type	Flags milestone tasks with special rendering
Resource Name	Assigned resource — enables resource conflict detection
Constraint Type	Hard constraints (SNET, FNET, etc.)
Status Code	On Track / At Risk / Behind — enables RAG formatting

Step 4: Enable Critical Path Display

Once **Task ID** and **Predecessors** are mapped, PowerGantt computes the critical path automatically using a true CPM engine with support for all four dependency types (FS, SS, FF, SF) and lag.

1. In the Format pane, expand **Critical Path**.

2. Toggle **Show Critical Path** to On.

3. Critical tasks render in red (customizable). Near-critical tasks (configurable float threshold) render with a pulse animation.

4. If you have multiple projects, the engine computes the program-level critical path across all projects.

Step 5: Configure Baseline Comparison

Map **Planned Start** and **Planned End** to enable baseline variance display:

1. In the Format pane, expand **Baseline**.
2. Toggle **Show Baseline** to On.
3. Green ribbons indicate the task is ahead of the baseline. Red ribbons indicate slippage.
4. The drift is visible at a glance before opening any tooltip.

Step 6: Use the Look-Ahead Filter

PowerGantt includes a built-in look-ahead button rack for rolling schedule windows — the way construction PMs actually operate:

1. Click **All** to show the full schedule timeline.
2. Click **2W**, **4W**, or **6W** to filter to a 2-week, 4-week, or 6-week rolling window from the data date.
3. The window is fully customizable in the Format pane under **Look-Ahead**.

Key Format Pane Sections

BFVZPowerGantt has 25 fully configurable format pane sections. Here are the most impactful to explore first:

Section	What It Controls
Critical Path	Toggle, color, near-critical threshold, pulse animation
Baseline	Show/hide baseline ribbons, variance coloring
Dependencies	Arrow visibility, typed arrows (FS/SS/FF/SF), lag labels
Data Grid	Enable a synchronized 9-column data grid alongside the Gantt
Milestones	Special rendering for permit, regulatory, and phase gate milestones
RAG Formatting	Conditional red/amber/green bar coloring by status
Look-Ahead	Window sizes, button rack visibility
Resource Conflicts	Cross-project overallocation detection and flagging
Theme	Light/dark mode, custom color overrides

Capacity and Performance

BFVZPowerGantt supports up to **30,000 rows** with O(n log n) CPM computation and binary-search bridging for dependency rendering. Performance remains responsive at 1,000+ tasks with full dependency rendering enabled.

Next Steps

- Download the sample dataset from **bfvztech.com/downloads.html** to see a pre-configured multi-project schedule.
- Visit **bfvztech.com/support.html** for FAQs and troubleshooting.
- Use **BFVZ DataBridge** (free download) to transform Primavera P6 or Microsoft Project exports into the optimal data format for PowerGantt.
- Explore **BFVZPowerHealth** — the companion DCMA 14-point schedule health analyzer for Power BI.
