# Box And Whisker Plot Worksheet With Answers

Box and Whiskers

Box and Whiskers graphs are a simple, linear way to analyze sets of continuous numerical data. They are especially helpful in determining whether or not there are significant differences between sets of data.

A box-and-whiskers shows the distribution of data along a number line. There are four components to a box and whisker plot: two whiskers and two boxes. Each component makes up 25% of the data regardless of how big or how small it is.
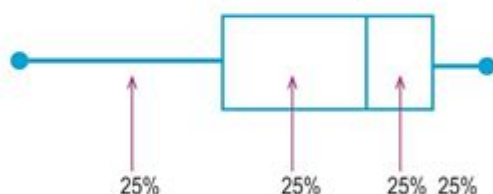
A box and whisker plot is a way of displaying the distribution of data based on a five-number summary. The five-number summary consists of the minimum, first quartile, median, third quartile, and the maximum.

The five-number summary is comprised of:

1. Lower extreme: also called the minimum, it is the smallest number in the set of data
2. Lower quartile: also called Q1, it is the median of the lower set of numbers
3. Median: also called Q2, it is the value exactly in the middle of an ordered set of numbers
4. Upper quartile: also called Q3, it is the median of the upper set of numbers
5. Upper extreme: also called the maximum, it is the largest number in the set of data
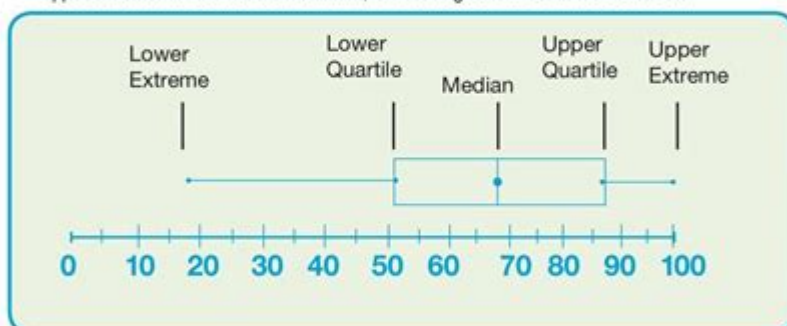
Box and whisker plot worksheet with answers is an essential educational resource for students learning about data visualization and statistics. A box and whisker plot, also known as a box plot, is a standardized way of displaying the distribution of data based on a five-number summary: minimum, first quartile (Q1), median, third quartile (Q3), and maximum. This article will provide a comprehensive overview of box and whisker plots, how to create them, and a worksheet with answers for practice.

Understanding Box and Whisker Plots

A box and whisker plot provides a visual representation of the spread and center of a

dataset. It helps in understanding how data is distributed, identifying outliers, and comparing different sets of data. Here are the key components of a box and whisker plot:

Components of a Box and Whisker Plot

1. Minimum: The smallest data point in the dataset.
2. First Quartile (Q1): The median of the lower half of the dataset, which represents the 25th percentile.
3. Median: The middle value of the dataset when sorted in ascending order.
4. Third Quartile (Q3): The median of the upper half of the dataset, representing the 75th percentile.
5. Maximum: The largest data point in the dataset.

How to Create a Box and Whisker Plot

Creating a box and whisker plot involves several steps. Below is a step-by-step guide to constructing one:

Step-by-Step Construction

1. Organize the Data: Begin by sorting your data in ascending order.
2. Calculate the Five-Number Summary:
- Identify the minimum and maximum values.
- Calculate the median.
- Determine Q1 and Q3.
3. Draw a Number Line: Create a horizontal line that will serve as the base of the box plot.
4. Draw the Box:
- Mark Q1 and Q3 on the number line.
- Draw a box from Q1 to Q3.
5. Mark the Median: Draw a line inside the box at the median value.
6. Draw the Whiskers:
- Extend lines (whiskers) from Q1 to the minimum and from Q3 to the maximum.
7. Identify Outliers: Mark any data points that fall outside of 1.5 times the interquartile range (IQR) as outliers.

Example Data Set

Consider the following dataset representing the ages of participants in a study:

34, 23, 45, 29, 41, 36, 38, 30, 50, 27

Calculating the Five-Number Summary

1. Organize the Data:
- Sorted data: 23, 27, 29, 30, 34, 36, 38, 41, 45, 50
2. Minimum: 23
3. Maximum: 50
4. Median: The median is the average of the 5th and 6th values (34 and 36), so Median = (34 + 36) / 2 = 35.
5. Q1: The median of the first half (23, 27, 29, 30) is (27 + 29) / 2 = 28.
6. Q3: The median of the second half (36, 38, 41, 45, 50) is (41 + 45) / 2 = 43.

The five-number summary is:
- Minimum: 23
- Q1: 28
- Median: 35
- Q3: 43
- Maximum: 50

Creating the Box and Whisker Plot

Using the five-number summary, we can now create the box and whisker plot.

1. Draw a horizontal line to represent the values from the minimum (23) to the maximum (50).
2. Mark the quartiles and median on this line:
- Draw a box from Q1 (28) to Q3 (43).
- Inside the box, draw a line at the median (35).
3. Draw whiskers from the minimum (23) to Q1 (28) and from Q3 (43) to the maximum (50).
4. No outliers exist in this dataset.

Worksheet: Box and Whisker Plot Practice

To reinforce your understanding, here is a worksheet for you to practice creating box and whisker plots.

Dataset 1
Ages of students in a classroom:
25, 30, 32, 29, 35, 40, 27, 22, 33, 31

Questions
1. Calculate the five-number summary.
2. Construct a box and whisker plot based on your calculations.

Dataset 2

Scores on a test:
78, 85, 92, 88, 76, 95, 81, 89, 73, 90

Questions

1. Calculate the five-number summary.
2. Construct a box and whisker plot based on your calculations.

Answers to the Worksheet

Let's provide the answers for the worksheets above to check your understanding.

Answers for Dataset 1

1. Five-Number Summary:
- Sorted data: 22, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 40
- Minimum: 22
- Maximum: 40
- Median: (30 + 31) / 2 = 30.5
- Q1: (27 + 29) / 2 = 28
- Q3: (32 + 33) / 2 = 32.5

2. Box and Whisker Plot:
- The box extends from Q1 (28) to Q3 (32.5) with a median line at 30.5 and whiskers extending to the minimum (22) and maximum (40).

Answers for Dataset 2

1. Five-Number Summary:
- Sorted data: 73, 76, 78, 81, 85, 88, 89, 90, 92, 95
- Minimum: 73
- Maximum: 95
- Median: (85 + 88) / 2 = 86.5
- Q1: (78 + 81) / 2 = 79.5
- Q3: (89 + 90) / 2 = 89.5

2. Box and Whisker Plot:
- The box extends from Q1 (79.5) to Q3 (89.5) with a median line at 86.5 and whiskers extending to the minimum (73) and maximum (95).

Conclusion

Box and whisker plots are powerful tools for visualizing the distribution of a dataset. By learning to construct and interpret these plots, students can gain valuable insights into the data's spread, center, and variability. The provided worksheet with answers can serve as a practical exercise to reinforce these concepts and help develop statistical literacy. Understanding how to read and create box and whisker plots is a vital skill in mathematics, statistics, and various fields that rely on data analysis.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a box and whisker plot, and what does it represent?

A box and whisker plot, also known as a box plot, is a graphical representation of a dataset that displays its minimum, first quartile, median, third quartile, and maximum. It helps visualize the distribution, central tendency, and variability of the data.

How do you interpret the different parts of a box and whisker plot?

In a box and whisker plot, the box represents the interquartile range (IQR), which contains the middle 50% of the data. The line inside the box indicates the median. The 'whiskers' extend from the box to the minimum and maximum values, showing the full range of the data, excluding outliers.

What are the steps to create a box and whisker plot from a dataset?

To create a box and whisker plot, first, organize the data in ascending order. Then, calculate the minimum, maximum, median, first quartile (Q1), and third quartile (Q3). Construct the box using Q1, Q3, and the median, and draw whiskers to the minimum and maximum values.

Can a box and whisker plot display outliers, and if so, how?

Yes, a box and whisker plot can display outliers. Outliers are typically represented as individual points beyond the whiskers. They are often determined using a calculation based on 1.5 times the interquartile range (IQR) above Q3 and below Q1.

Where can I find worksheets with box and whisker plot problems and answers?

Worksheets with box and whisker plot problems and answers can be found on educational websites, math resource sites, and platforms providing printable worksheets for teachers and students. They often include example problems, step-by-step solutions, and practice questions.

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