

# Rectangular Schism

**TIP:** When using the rectangle shape, turn OFF **Fill** and use **Background** instead.

## Why?

A background layer exists behind the shape layer in each shape element, but the shape layer NEVER fully extends to the shape element border.

The result is a confusing format gap with rectangles always leaving space around the shape layer's edges.

**Fill** only colors the shape layer.

**Background** only colors the background layer. The background layer is always a rectangle, so we can turn OFF **Fill** and just pretend the shape layer does exist.

**TIP:** Use a text box for rectangles instead of the rectangle shape element.

A Text Box is simpler and more straightforward to use than the rectangle shape. It cannot be rotated, but it has all of the same practical benefits AND you can add text to it by default.

**Tip:** Create images in PowerPoint to use as shapes in Power BI.

This is an easy way to incorporate image effects like shadows and gradients.

Be sure to set **Scaling** to "Fit"

Keep shape images simple. Images will distort as they are resized and you want them to be as flexible as possible.

For example, even the little yellow bar on this image will distort vertically and lose its aesthetic appeal.