GRAPHING CHECKLIST

Use graph paper, not engineering grid! There should be major and minor blocks.

(1) Does the graph utilize as much of the paper as possible?
>   Typically, a graph is prepared in order to extract data. Thus, the more paper that
is used, the higher the resolution and, thus, precision.

(2) Title
>   Does the title describe the data? Is it complete?

(3) X axis
>   The INDEPENDENT VARIABLE is plotted here.
>   a.   Independent variable's name? (e.g., "Area of hole")
>   b.   Units? (e.g., "cm^2")
>   c.   Consistent multiple? (e.g., counting each line by 1's, 2's, 5's, 10's, etc.)

(4) Y axis
>   The DEPENDENT VARIABLE is plotted here.
>   a.   Dependent variable's name? (e.g., "Time")
>   b.   Units? (e.g., "sec.")
>   c.   Consistent multiple? (e.g., counting each line by 1's, 2's, 5's, 10's, etc.)

(5) Plotting of data
>   a.   Is the data accurately plotted as points for line graphs?
>   b.   For a line graph, is a line drawn, and is it drawn accurately using a straight edge?
>   c.   Did you draw a <u>line of best fit</u>, making a line go up the middle of all the data,
>   with about half of the data points above the line and half below the line.

(6) Key/Legend -- If needed, is there a key/legend explaining any different colors or
patterns that you have used in your graph?