

Base R Cheat Sheet

Getting Help

Accessing the help files

?mean

Get help of a particular function.

help.search('weighted mean')

Search the help files for a word or phrase.

help(package = 'dplyr')

Find help for a package.

More about an object

str(iris)

Get a summary of an object's structure.

class(iris)

Find the class an object belongs to.

Using Libraries

install.packages('dplyr')

Download and install a package from CRAN.

library(dplyr)

Load the package into the session, making all its functions available to use.

dplyr::select

Use a particular function from a package.

data(iris)

Load a built-in dataset into the environment.

Working Directory

getwd()

Find the current working directory (where inputs are found and outputs are sent).

setwd('C://file/path')

Change the current working directory.

Use projects in RStudio to set the working directory to the folder you are working in.

Vectors			Programming					
Creating Vectors			For Loop			While Loop		
c(2, 4, 6)	2 4 6	Join elements into a vector	for (variable in sequence){	Do something	}	while (condition){	Do something	}
2:6	2 3 4 5 6	An integer sequence						
seq(2, 3, by=0.5)	2.0 2.5 3.0	A complex sequence						
rep(1:2, times=3)	1 2 1 2 1 2	Repeat a vector	for (i in 1:4){	j <- i + 10	print(j)	while (i < 5){	print(i)	i <- i + 1
rep(1:2, each=3)	1 1 1 2 2 2	Repeat elements of a vector						
Vector Functions								
sort(x)	rev(x)		if (condition){	Do something		functions_name <- function(var){	Do something	
		Return x sorted.	} else {	Do something different	}	return(new_variable)		
table(x)	unique(x)	See counts of values.						
Selecting Vector Elements								
By Position			If Statements			Functions		
x[4]	The fourth element.		if (i > 3){	print('Yes')		function_name <- function(var){		
x[-4]	All but the fourth.		} else {	print('No')		Do something		
x[2:4]	Elements two to four.					return(new_variable)		
x[-(2:4)]	All elements except two to four.							
x[c(1, 5)]	Elements one and five.		Example			Example		
By Value			if (i > 3){	print('Yes')		square <- function(x){		
x[x == 10]	Elements which are equal to 10.		} else {	print('No')		squared <- x*x		
x[x < 0]	All elements less than zero.					return(squared)		
x[x %in% c(1, 2, 5)]	Elements in the set 1, 2, 5.		Reading and Writing Data			Example		
Named Vectors			df <- read.table('file.txt')	write.table(df, 'file.txt')		Input	Ouput	Description
x['apple']	Element with name 'apple'.					df <- read.csv('file.csv')	write.csv(df, 'file.csv')	Read and write a delimited text file.
Conditions			load('file.RData')	save(df, file = 'file.Rdata')				Read and write a comma separated value file. This is a special case of read.table/write.table.
a == b	Are equal							Read and write an R data file, a file type special for R.
a != b	Not equal		a > b	Greater than	a >= b	a == b	Greater than or equal to	is.na(a) Is missing
			a < b	Less than	a <= b	a != b	Less than or equal to	is.null(a) Is null

Types

Converting between common data types in R. Can always go from a higher value in the table to a lower value.

as.logical	TRUE, FALSE, TRUE	Boolean values (TRUE or FALSE).
as.numeric	1, 0, 1	Integers or floating point numbers.
as.character	'1', '0', '1'	Character strings. Generally preferred to factors.
as.factor	'1', '0', '1', levels: '1', '0'	Character strings with preset levels. Needed for some statistical models.

Maths Functions

log(x)	Natural log.	sum(x)	Sum.
exp(x)	Exponential.	mean(x)	Mean.
max(x)	Largest element.	median(x)	Median.
min(x)	Smallest element.	quantile(x)	Percentage quantiles.
round(x, n)	Round to n decimal places.	rank(x)	Rank of elements.
signif(x, n)	Round to n significant figures.	var(x)	The variance.
cor(x, y)	Correlation.	sd(x)	The standard deviation.

Variable Assignment

```
> a <- 'apple'  
> a  
[1] 'apple'
```

The Environment

ls()	List all variables in the environment.
rm(x)	Remove x from the environment.
rm(list = ls())	Remove all variables from the environment.

You can use the environment panel in RStudio to browse variables in your environment.

Matrixes

`m <- matrix(x, nrow = 3, ncol = 3)`
Create a matrix from x.

	<code>m[2,]</code> - Select a row	<code>t(m)</code> Transpose
	<code>m[, 1]</code> - Select a column	<code>m %*% n</code> Matrix Multiplication
	<code>m[2, 3]</code> - Select an element	<code>solve(m, n)</code> Find x in: $m \cdot x = n$

Lists

`l <- list(x = 1:5, y = c('a', 'b'))`
A list is collection of elements which can be of different types.

<code>l[[2]]</code>	<code>l[1]</code>	<code>l\$x</code>	<code>l['y']</code>
Second element of l.	New list with only the first element.	Element named x.	New list with only element named y.

Also see the [dplyr](#) library.

Data Frames

`df <- data.frame(x = 1:3, y = c('a', 'b', 'c'))`
A special case of a list where all elements are the same length.

x	y
1	a
2	b
3	c

Matrix subsetting

<code>df[, 2]</code>	
<code>df[2,]</code>	
<code>df[2, 2]</code>	

List subsetting

<code>df\$x</code>		<code>df[[2]]</code>	
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Understanding a data frame

`View(df)` See the full data frame.

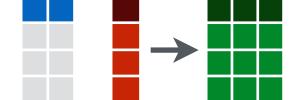
`head(df)` See the first 6 rows.

`nrow(df)`
Number of rows.

`ncol(df)`
Number of columns.

`dim(df)`
Number of columns and rows.

`cbind` - Bind columns.



`rbind` - Bind rows.



Strings

<code>paste(x, y, sep = ' ')</code>	Join multiple vectors together.
<code>paste(x, collapse = ' ')</code>	Join elements of a vector together.
<code>grep(pattern, x)</code>	Find regular expression matches in x.
<code>gsub(pattern, replace, x)</code>	Replace matches in x with a string.
<code>toupper(x)</code>	Convert to uppercase.
<code>tolower(x)</code>	Convert to lowercase.
<code>nchar(x)</code>	Number of characters in a string.

Factors

<code>factor(x)</code>	
Turn a vector into a factor. Can set the levels of the factor and the order.	Turn a numeric vector into a factor but 'cutting' into sections.

Statistics

<code>lm(x ~ y, data=df)</code> Linear model.	<code>t.test(x, y)</code> Preform a t-test for difference between means.	<code>prop.test</code> Test for a difference between proportions.
<code>glm(x ~ y, data=df)</code> Generalised linear model.	<code>summary</code> Get more detailed information out a model.	<code>pairwise.t.test</code> Preform a t-test for paired data.
		<code>aov</code> Analysis of variance.

Distributions

	Random Variates	Density Function	Cumulative Distribution	Quantile
Normal	<code>rnorm</code>	<code>dnorm</code>	<code>pnorm</code>	<code>qnorm</code>
Poisson	<code>rpois</code>	<code>dpois</code>	<code>ppois</code>	<code>qpois</code>
Binomial	<code>rbinom</code>	<code>dbinom</code>	<code>pbinom</code>	<code>qbinom</code>
Uniform	<code>runif</code>	<code>dunif</code>	<code>unif</code>	<code>qunif</code>

Plotting

<code>plot(x)</code> Values of x in order.	<code>plot(x, y)</code> Values of x against y.	<code>hist(x)</code> Histogram of x.
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Dates

See the [lubridate](#) library.



Data import with the tidyverse :: CHEATSHEET

Read Tabular Data with readr

```
read_*(file, col_names = TRUE, col_types = NULL, col_select = NULL, id = NULL, locale, n_max = Inf,
skip = 0, na = c("", "NA"), guess_max = min(1000, n_max), show_col_types = TRUE) See ?read_delim
```

A B C	1 2 3	4 5 NA
A	B	C
1	2	3
4	5	NA

read_delim("file.txt", delim = "|") Read files with any delimiter. If no delimiter is specified, it will automatically guess.

To make file.txt, run: `write_file("A|B|C\n1|2|3\n4|5|NA", file = "file.txt")`

A,B,C	1,2,3	4,5,NA
A	B	C
1	2	3
4	5	NA

read_csv("file.csv") Read a comma delimited file with period decimal marks.

`write_file("A,B,C\n1,2,3\n4,5,NA", file = "file.csv")`

A;B;C	1;5;2;3	4;5;5;NA
A	B	C
1.5	2	3
4.5	5	NA

read_csv2("file2.csv") Read semicolon delimited files with comma decimal marks.

`write_file("A;B;C\n1,5;2;3\n4,5;5;NA", file = "file2.csv")`

A B C	1 2 3	4 5 NA
A	B	C
1	2	3
4	5	NA

read_tsv("file.tsv") Read a tab delimited file. Also **read_table()**.

read_fwf("file.tsv", fwf_widths(c(2, 2, NA))) Read a fixed width file.

`write_file("A\tB\tC\n1\t2\t3\n4\t5\tNA", file = "file.tsv")`

USEFUL READ ARGUMENTS

A	B	C
1	2	3
4	5	NA

No header
`read_csv("file.csv", col_names = FALSE)`

x	y	z
A	B	C
1	2	3
4	5	NA

Provide header

`read_csv("file.csv", col_names = c("x", "y", "z"))`

A	B	C
NA	2	3
4	5	NA

Read multiple files into a single table

`read_csv(c("f1.csv", "f2.csv", "f3.csv"), id = "origin_file")`

A;B;C	1,5;2;3;0	
A	B	C
1	5	NA
2	3	0

Skip lines
`read_csv("file.csv", skip = 1)`

A	B	C
NA	2	3
4	5	NA

Read a subset of lines
`read_csv("file.csv", n_max = 1)`

A	B	C
NA	2	3
4	5	NA

Read values as missing
`read_csv("file.csv", na = c("1"))`

A;B;C	1,5;2;3;0	
A	B	C
1	5	NA
2	3	0

Specify decimal marks
`read_delim("file2.csv", locale = locale(decimal_mark = ","))`

Save Data with readr

```
write_*(x, file, na = "NA", append, col_names, quote, escape, eol, num_threads, progress)
```

A	B	C
1	2	3
4	5	NA

write_delim(x, file, delim = " ") Write files with any delimiter.

write_csv(x, file) Write a comma delimited file.

write_csv2(x, file) Write a semicolon delimited file.

write_tsv(x, file) Write a tab delimited file.

One of the first steps of a project is to import outside data into R. Data is often stored in tabular formats, like csv files or spreadsheets.



The front page of this sheet shows how to import and save text files into R using **readr**.



The back page shows how to import spreadsheet data from Excel files using **readxl** or Google Sheets using **googlesheets4**.

OTHER TYPES OF DATA

Try one of the following packages to import other types of files:

- **haven** - SPSS, Stata, and SAS files
- **DBI** - databases
- **jsonlite** - json
- **xml2** - XML
- **httr** - Web APIs
- **rvest** - HTML (Web Scraping)
- **readr::read_lines()** - text data

Column Specification with readr

Column specifications define what data type each column of a file will be imported as. By default **readr** will generate a column spec when a file is read and output a summary.

spec(x) Extract the full column specification for the given imported data frame.

```
spec(x)
# cols(
#   age = col_integer(),
#   edu = col_character(),
#   earn = col_double()
# )
```

age is an integer

edu is a character

earn is a double (numeric)

COLUMN TYPES

Each column type has a function and corresponding string abbreviation.

- **col_logical()** - "l"
- **col_integer()** - "i"
- **col_double()** - "d"
- **col_number()** - "n"
- **col_character()** - "c"
- **col_factor(levels, ordered = FALSE)** - "f"
- **col_datetime(format = "")** - "T"
- **col_date(format = "")** - "D"
- **col_time(format = "")** - "t"
- **col_skip()** - "-", "_"
- **col_guess()** - "?"

DEFINE COLUMN SPECIFICATION

Set a default type

```
read_csv(
  file,
  col_type = list(.default = col_double())
)
```

Use column type or string abbreviation

```
read_csv(
  file,
  col_type = list(x = col_double(), y = "l", z = "_")
)
```

Use a single string of abbreviations

```
# col types: skip, guess, integer, logical, character
read_csv(
  file,
  col_type = "_?ilc"
)
```

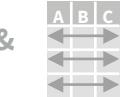
Data transformation with dplyr :: CHEATSHEET



dplyr functions work with pipes and expect **tidy data**. In tidy data:



Each **variable** is in its own **column**



Each **observation**, or **case**, is in its own **row**

pipes

$x |> f(y)$ becomes $f(x, y)$

Summarize Cases

Apply **summary functions** to columns to create a new table of summary statistics. Summary functions take vectors as input and return one value (see back).

summary function

→ **summarize(.data, ...)**
Compute table of summaries.
mtcars |> summarize(avg = mean(mpg))

→ **count(.data, ..., wt = NULL, sort = FALSE, name = NULL)** Count number of rows in each group defined by the variables in ... Also **tally()**, **add_count()**, **add_tally()**.
mtcars |> count(cyl)

Group Cases

Use **group_by(.data, ..., .add = FALSE, .drop = TRUE)** to create a "grouped" copy of a table grouped by columns in ... dplyr functions will manipulate each "group" separately and combine the results.

→ → mtcars |>
group_by(cyl) |>
summarize(avg = mean(mpg))

Use **rowwise(.data, ...)** to group data into individual rows. dplyr functions will compute results for each row. Also apply functions to list-columns. See tidyverse cheat sheet for list-column workflow.

→ → starwars |>
rowwise() |>
mutate(film_count = length(films))

ungroup(x, ...) Returns ungrouped copy of table.
g_mtcars <- mtcars |> group_by(cyl)
ungroup(g_mtcars)

Manipulate Cases

EXTRACT CASES

Row functions return a subset of rows as a new table.

→ **filter(.data, ..., .preserve = FALSE)** Extract rows that meet logical criteria.
mtcars |> filter(mpg > 20)

→ **distinct(.data, ..., .keep_all = FALSE)** Remove rows with duplicate values.
mtcars |> distinct(gear)

→ **slice(.data, ..., .preserve = FALSE)** Select rows by position.
mtcars |> slice(10:15)

→ **slice_sample(.data, ..., n, prop, weight_by = NULL, replace = FALSE)** Randomly select rows. Use n to select a number of rows and prop to select a fraction of rows.
mtcars |> slice_sample(n = 5, replace = TRUE)

→ **slice_min(.data, order_by, ..., n, prop, with_ties = TRUE)** and **slice_max()** Select rows with the lowest and highest values.
mtcars |> slice_min(mpg, prop = 0.25)

→ **slice_head(.data, ..., n, prop)** and **slice_tail()**
Select the first or last rows.
mtcars |> slice_head(n = 5)

Logical and boolean operators to use with filter()

<code>==</code>	<code><</code>	<code><=</code>	<code>is.na()</code>	<code>%in%</code>	<code> </code>	<code>xor()</code>
<code>!=</code>	<code>></code>	<code>>=</code>	<code>!is.na()</code>	<code>!</code>	<code>&</code>	

See [?base::Logic](#) and [?Comparison](#) for help.

ARRANGE CASES

→ **arrange(.data, ..., .by_group = FALSE)** Order rows by values of a column or columns (low to high), use with **desc()** to order from high to low.
mtcars |> arrange(mpg)
mtcars |> arrange(desc(mpg))

ADD CASES

→ **add_row(.data, ..., .before = NULL, .after = NULL)**
Add one or more rows to a table.
cars |> add_row(speed = 1, dist = 1)

Manipulate Variables

EXTRACT VARIABLES

Column functions return a set of columns as a new vector or table.

→ **pull(.data, var = -1, name = NULL, ...)** Extract column values as a vector, by name or index.
mtcars |> pull(wt)

→ **select(.data, ...)** Extract columns as a table.
mtcars |> select(mpg, wt)

→ **relocate(.data, ..., .before = NULL, .after = NULL)** Move columns to new position.
mtcars |> relocate(mpg, cyl, .after = last_col())

Use these helpers with select() and across()

e.g. mtcars |> select(mpg:cyl)

contains(match)	num_range(prefix, range)	⋮, e.g., mpg:cyl
ends_with(match)	all_of(x)/any_of(x, ..., vars)	!, e.g., !gear
starts_with(match)	matches(match)	everything()

MANIPULATE MULTIPLE VARIABLES AT ONCE

df <- tibble(x_1 = c(1, 2), x_2 = c(3, 4), y = c(4, 5))

→ **across(.cols, .funs, ..., .names = NULL)** Summarize or mutate multiple columns in the same way.
df |> summarize(across(everything(), mean))

→ **c_across(.cols)** Compute across columns in row-wise data.
df |>
rowwise() |>
mutate(x_total = sum(c_across(1:2)))

MAKE NEW VARIABLES

Apply **vectorized functions** to columns. Vectorized functions take vectors as input and return vectors of the same length as output (see back).

→ **mutate(.data, ..., .keep = "all", .before = NULL, .after = NULL)** Compute new column(s). Also **add_column()**.
mtcars |> mutate(gpm = 1 / mpg)
mtcars |> mutate(gpm = 1 / mpg, .keep = "none")

→ **rename(.data, ...)** Rename columns. Use **rename_with()** to rename with a function.
mtcars |> rename(miles_per_gallon = mpg)

