

# 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 Packages

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

### Creating Vectors

|                   |             |                             |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| c(2, 4, 6)        | 2 4 6       | Join elements into a vector |
| 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             |
| rep(1:2, each=3)  | 1 1 1 2 2 2 | Repeat elements of a vector |

### Vector Functions

sort(x)

Return x sorted.

rev(x)

Return x reversed.

table(x)

See counts of values.

unique(x)

See unique values.

### Selecting Vector Elements

#### By Position

x[4]

The fourth element.

x[-4]

All but the fourth.

x[2:4]

Elements two to four.

x[!(2:4)]

All elements except two to four.

x[c(1, 5)]

Elements one and five.

#### By Value

x[x == 10]

Elements which are equal to 10.

x[x < 0]

All elements less than zero.

x[x %in% c(1, 2, 5)]

Elements in the set 1, 2, 5.

### Named Vectors

x['apple']

Element with name 'apple'.

## Programming

### For Loop

```
for (variable in sequence){  
  Do something  
}
```

#### Example

```
for (i in 1:4){  
  j <- i + 10  
  print(j)  
}
```

### While Loop

```
while (condition){  
  Do something  
}
```

#### Example

```
while (i < 5){  
  print(i)  
  i <- i + 1  
}
```

## Functions

```
function_name <- function(var){  
  Do something  
  return(new_variable)  
}
```

#### Example

```
square <- function(x){  
  squared <- x*x  
  return(squared)  
}
```

## Reading and Writing Data

Also see the **readr** package.

| Input                        | Output                        | Description  |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| df <- read.table('file.txt') | write.table(df, 'file.txt')   | Read and write a delimited text file.  |
| df <- read.csv('file.csv')   | write.csv(df, 'file.csv')     | Read and write a comma separated value file. This is a special case of read.table/write.table. |
| load('file.RData')           | save(df, file = 'file.Rdata') | Read and write an R data file, a file type special for R.                                      |

| Conditions | a == b | Are equal | a > b | Greater than | a >= b | Greater than or equal to | is.na(a)   | Is missing |
|------------|--------|-----------|-------|--------------|--------|--------------------------|------------|------------|
|            | a != b | Not equal | a < b | Less than    | 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.

## Matrices

`m <- matrix(x, nrow = 3, ncol = 3)`

Create a matrix from x.



`m[2, ]` - Select a row



`m[, 1]` - Select a column



`m[2, 3]` - Select an element

`t(m)`

Transpose

`m %*% n`

Matrix Multiplication

`solve(m, n)`

Find x in:  $m \cdot x = n$

## Lists

`l <- list(x = 1:5, y = c('a', 'b'))`

A list is a collection of elements which can be of different types.

`l[[2]]`

Second element of l.

`l[1]`

New list with only the first element.

`l$x`

Element named x.

`l['y']`

New list with only element named y.

Also see the `dplyr` package.

## 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

`df[, 2]`



`df[2, ]`



`df[2, 2]`



### List subsetting



Understanding a data frame

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

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

`nrow(df)`

Number of rows.

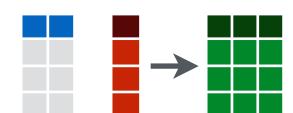
`ncol(df)`

Number of columns.

`dim(df)`

Number of columns and rows.

`cbind` - Bind columns.



`rbind` - Bind rows.



## Strings

`paste(x, y, sep = ' ')`

Join multiple vectors together.

`paste(x, collapse = ' ')`

Join elements of a vector together.

`grep(pattern, x)`

Find regular expression matches in x.

`gsub(pattern, replace, x)`

Replace matches in x with a string.

`toupper(x)`

Convert to uppercase.

`tolower(x)`

Convert to lowercase.

`nchar(x)`

Number of characters in a string.

## Factors

`factor(x)`

Turn a vector into a factor. Can set the levels of the factor and the order.

`cut(x, breaks = 4)`

Turn a numeric vector into a factor by 'cutting' into sections.

## Statistics

`lm(y ~ x, data=df)`

Linear model.

`glm(y ~ x, data=df)`

Generalised linear model.

`summary`

Get more detailed information out a model.

`t.test(x, y)`

Perform a t-test for difference between means.

`pairwise.t.test`

Perform a t-test for paired data.

`aov`

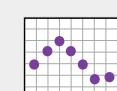
Analysis of variance.

## 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>  |

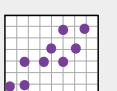
## Plotting

Also see the `ggplot2` package.



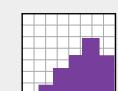
`plot(x)`

Values of x in order.



`plot(x, y)`

Values of x against y.



`hist(x)`

Histogram of x.

## Dates

See the `lubridate` package.