

# Cheat Sheet

## R BASICS WORKSHOP

<http://rbasicsworkshop.weebly.com/>

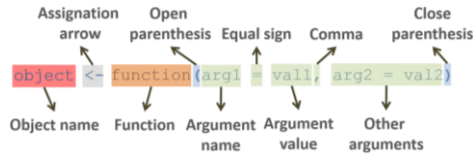
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jsebastiantello@gmail.com;

ivan.jimenez@mobot.org

## Functions & Arguments

Basic command structure:



```
object <-  
  function(argument1=value1,  
           argument2=value2)
```

```
or  
object <- function(value1,  
                  value2)
```

```
or  
object <-  
  function(argument2=value2,  
           argument1=value1)
```

Help and information:

?function.name – open help for function  
"function.name"

help(topic) – open help for a function

[www.rseek.org](http://www.rseek.org) – useful webpage to make R-  
related searches

Packages:

install.packages(pkgs) – install  
packages

library(package) – open installed  
packages

installed.packages() – find details of  
installed packages

old.packages() – find packages with a  
later available version on the repositories

update.packages() – update old packages

data() – loads datasets

## Objects

Main classes:

**Vector** (numeric, character, logical) – one  
dimensional sequence of values

**Factor** – a variable with "levels" or "categories"

**Matrix** – a 2-dimensional object

**Array** – n-dimensional object

**Data frame** – rows are observations, columns  
variables of any type

**List** – object where each element can be of any  
size or class

Special values:

NA, Inf, -Inf, NaN, NULL

Value assignment:

```
obj <- val  
value -> obj  
obj = val  
assign(x, value)
```

Object creation:

numeric(length=0) – create object of  
class "numeric"

character(length=0) – create object of  
class "character"

matrix(data=NA, nrow=1, ncol=1,  
 byrow=FALSE) – create a matrix

list() – create a list

Main object properties:

ls() – list all objects in current R session

rm() – remove objects from session

class(x) – obtain class of x

mode(x) – obtain mode of data in x

names(x) – obtain element names of x

rownames(x), colnames(x) – obtain row  
or column names of x

length(x) – obtain length of x

dim(x) – obtain dimensions of x

nrow(x), ncol(x) – obtain number of rows  
or columns in x

str(object) – obtain structure of object

summary(object) – produce a summary

table(x) – calculate a frequency table for  
values in x

## Opening & Saving Data

getwd() – return the filepath of current  
working directory

setwd(dir) – set the working directory

read.table(file, header=FALSE,  
 sep=" ") – read a file in table format

write.table(x, file="", sep=" ",  
 row.names=TRUE,  
 col.names=TRUE) – save x to a file in  
table format

save(...) – write an R object to a file

load(file) – reload datasets written with  
the function save

source(file) – input information from a  
file (often a script)

file.choose() – open window to search  
for a file

## Data Generation

Aggregating data:

c(...) – combine values

paste(..., sep=" ", collapse=NULL)  
– concatenate characters

rbind(...), cbind(...) – combine by rows or  
columns

data.frame(...) – combine variables into  
data frame

merge(x, y) – merge two data frames

union(x, y) – perform set union

intersect(x, y) – perform set  
intersection

setdiff(x, y) – perform set asymmetric  
difference

Sequences:

: – generate a regular sequence from x to y

seq(from=1, to=1, by=((to -  
from)/(length.out - 1)),

length.out=NULL) – generate a  
regular sequence

rep(x, times, each) – replicate the  
values in x

expand.grid(...) – create a data frame  
from all combinations of the supplied  
vectors

Data from statistical distributions:

rnorm(n, mean=0, sd=1) – generate n  
random values from a normal  
distribution

rpois(n, lambda) – from a Poisson  
distribution

runif(n, min=0, max=1) – from a  
uniform distribution

rbinom(n, size, prob) – from a  
binomial distribution

Sampling:

sample(x, size, replace=FALSE,  
 prob=NULL) – sample elements of x

## Operators

Arithmetic:

+, -, \*, /, ^ – basic arithmetic operators

%% – returns the remainder of x/y

%/ % – discards remainder of x/y

Relational:

== – is x equal to y?

!= – not equal to

> – greater than

>= – greater or equal than

< – less than

<= – less of equal than

| – element-wise or

& – element-wise and

## Managing Objects

Numeric indexing:

vector[n] – return elements "n" of "vector"

vector[-n] – return "vector" without "n"  
elements

matrix[n] – return elements "n" of "matrix"

matrix[row.n, col.n] – return rows  
"row.n" and columns "col.n"

matrix[, col.n] – return all rows and  
columns "col.n"

data.frame[row.n, col.n] – return  
rows "row.n" and columns "col.n" of  
"data.frame"

data.frame[, col.n] – return all rows  
and columns "col.n"

list[n] – return elements "n" of "list" in a  
list format

list[[n]] – return concatenated elements  
"n" of "list"

Logical indexing:

vector[c(FALSE, TRUE, FALSE)] –  
return elements for which condition is  
TRUE; same type of indexing applies to  
other object classes

### Indexing by name:

`vector["elem.name"]` – return element named “elem.name”; **same indexing applies to other object classes**  
`data.frame$var.name` – returns variable named “var.name”; this **cannot be applied to matrix** columns

### Other useful functions:

`is.na(x)` – is this an NA?  
`!is.na(x)` – is this not an NA?  
`na.omit(object)` – eliminate NAs  
`which(x)` – identify which elements in x are TRUE  
`sort(x, decreasing=FALSE)` – sort vector or factor x  
`order(..., decreasing=FALSE)` – return a permutation which rearranges the first argument  
`match(x, table)` – return a vector of the positions of matches of the first argument in the second  
`t(x)` – transpose x  
`diag(x)` – extract the diagonal of matrix x  
`lower.tri(x)`, `upper.tri(x)` – return a logical matrix with TRUEs in the lower/upper triangle  
`unique(x)` – remove duplicate elements/rows

## Statistics

### Summary statistics:

`mean(x, na.rm=FALSE)` – calculate arithmetic mean of x  
`median(x, na.rm=FALSE)` – median of x  
`sd(x, na.rm=FALSE)` – standard deviation of x  
`quantile(x, probs=seq(0, 1, 0.25), na.rm=FALSE)` – sample quantiles corresponding to the given probabilities  
`range(..., na.rm=FALSE)` – min. and max. values  
`min(..., na.rm=FALSE)` – minimum value  
`max(..., na.rm=FALSE)` – maximum value  
`sum(..., na.rm=FALSE)` – sum of all values in arguments  
`rowSums(x, na.rm=FALSE)` – sums of values in each row  
`colSums(x, na.rm=FALSE)`  
`rowMeans(x, na.rm=FALSE)` – means of values in each row  
`colMeans(x, na.rm=FALSE)`

### Variable transformations:

`log(x, base=exp(1))` – calculate logarithms of x  
`exp(x)` – exponentials  
`sqrt(x)` – square roots  
`rank(x, na.last=TRUE, ties.method="average")` – rank values of x  
`scale(x, center=TRUE, scale=TRUE)` – center and/or standardize x  
`round(x, digits=0)` – round x

`ceiling(x)` – round x to the next higher integer (e.g. 3.3 to 4)  
`floor(x)` – round x to the next lower integer (e.g. 3.7 to 3)  
`cumsum(x)` – return a vector whose elements are the cumulative sums of x  
`cumprod(x)` – return a vector whose elements are the cumulative products of x

### Basic analyses:

`cor(x, y=NULL, use="everything", method="pearson")` – calculate correlation between x and y, or between pairs of variables in x if a matrix or data frame  
`cov(x, y=NULL)` – calculate covariance between x and y, or between pairs of variables in x  
`aov(formula, data)` – run an analysis of variance  
`lm(formula, data)` – fit a linear model  
`glm(formula, family=gaussian, data)` – fit a generalized linear model  
`anova(object)` – computes an analysis of variance or deviance for a fitted model

## Graphics

### High-level functions:

`plot(x, y)` – This is a generic function for multiple types of plots. More frequently, a scatterplot of y against x  
`barplot(height)` – a bar-plot where bars come from argument height  
`boxplot(x)` – a boxplot of values in x  
`hist(x, breaks="Sturges")` – make a histogram of x  
`pie(x)` – a pie plot  
`pairs(x)` – a matrix of scatterplots

### Low-level functions:

`points(x, y)` – add points to a figure  
`lines(x, y=NULL)` – lines  
`arrows(x0, y0, x1=x0, y1=y0, length=0.25, angle=30)` – arrows  
`abline(a=NULL, b=NULL)` – a line based on intercept and slope  
`polygon(x, y)` – a polygon  
`rect(xleft, ybottom, xright, ytop)` – a rectangle  
`text(x, y=NULL, labels=seq_along(x))` – text  
`legend(x, y=NULL, legend)` – a figure legend  
`axis(side, at=NULL, labels=TRUE)` – an axis

### Graphic devices and saving figures:

`jpeg(filename="Rplot%03d.jpeg", width=480, height=480, pointsize=12, quality=75, res=NA)` – open a .jpeg graphic device to save a figure  
`pdf(file="Rplots.pdf", width=7, height=7, pointsize=12)` – open a .pdf graphic

device to save a figure  
`dev.off()` – close a graphic device (saving a file)  
`layout(mat)` – divide figure into panels  
`par()` – set graphical parameters  
`dev.new()` – open a new figure window on the screen

### Common arguments for plotting functions:

`pch` – type of symbol in scatterplots  
`lty` – type of line  
`col` – color  
`bg` – background color  
`border` – border color  
`lwd` – width of line  
`cex` – size of symbol  
`cex.lab` – size of axis label  
`cex.axis` – size of axis numbering  
`xlim, ylim` – limits in x or y dimension  
`xlab, ylab` – labels for x or y axis  
`axes` – logical indicating whether axes should be plotted  
`type` – type of scatterplot  
`las` – orientation of numbering in y axis

## Flow Control

`try({expression}, silent=FALSE)` – run “expression”, if it generates an error, continue running the script (when `silent=TRUE`).

### Loops:

`for(var in seq){expression}` – repeat “expression” as many times as there are elements in the vector “seq”. At each iteration, “var” takes a value from “seq”  
`while(condition){expression}` – repeat “expression” while “condition” is TRUE

### Conditions:

`if(condition){expression}` – if “cond” is TRUE, run “expression”  
`ifelse(test, yes, no)` – if “test” is TRUE, run “yes”, otherwise run “no”

### Breaks:

`next` – halt the processing of the current iteration and advance the looping index  
`break` – break out of a loop  
`stop()` – stop execution of the current expression and execute an error action