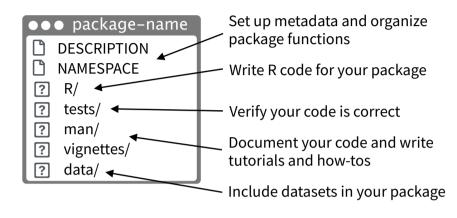
# Package Development:: CHEAT SHEET

## Package Structure

A package is a convention for organizing files into directories. This cheat sheet shows how to work with the 7 most common parts of an R package:



There are multiple packages useful to package development, including **usethis** which handily automates many of the more repetitive tasks. Load and install **devtools** which wraps together several of these packages to access everything in one step.

# **Getting Started**

Once per machine:

• Get set up with use\_r\_profile()

```
if (interactive()) {
    require("devtools", quietly = TRUE)
    # automatically attaches usethis
}
```

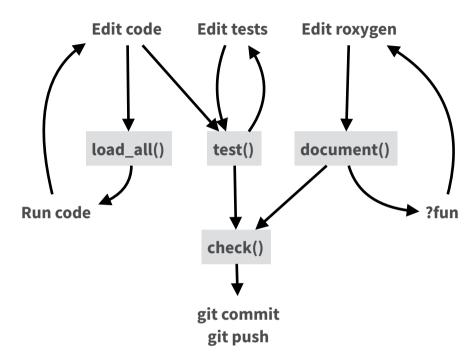
- **create\_github\_token()** Set up GitHub credentials
- **git\_vaccinate()** Ignores common special files

Once per package:

- use\_git() Activate git
- use\_github() Connect to GitHub
- **use\_github\_actions()** Set up automated checks

Having problems with git? Get a situation report with git\_sitrep().

### Workflow



- load\_all() (Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + L) Load code
- document() (Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + D) Rebuild docs and NAMESPACE
- test() (Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + T) Run tests
- check() (Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + E) Check complete package

### ? R

All of the R code in your package goes in ? R/. A package with just an R/ directory is still a very useful package.

- Create a new package project with create\_package("path/to/name").
- ✓ Create R files with use\_r("file-name").
- Follow the tidyverse style guide at style.tidyverse.org
- Click on a function and press **F2** to open its definition
- Find a function or file with Ctrl + .



# DESCRIPTION

The DESCRIPTION file describes your work, sets up how your package will work with other packages, and applies a license.

- Pick a license with use\_mit\_license(), use\_gpl3\_license(), use\_proprietary\_license().
- ✓ Add packages that you need with use\_package().

**Import** packages users of your packages need. R will install them when it installs your package.

**Suggest** packages that developers of your package need. Users can install or not, as they like.

### **NAMESPACE**

The \(\bigcap\) NAMESPACE file helps you make your package self-contained: it won't interfere with other packages, and other packages won't interfere with it.

- Export functions for users by placing @export in their roxygen comments.
- Access objects from other packages with **package::object** or @importFrom package object (recommended) or @import package (use with caution).
- ✓ Call **document()** to generate NAMESPACE and **load\_all()** to reload.

#### **DESCRIPTION**

NAMESPACE

Makes **packages** available

Mandatory Optional (can use :: instead)

use\_package()

use\_import\_from()

Makes function available



? man/

The documentation will become the help pages in your package.

- ✓ Document each function with a roxygen block above its definition. In RStudio, Code > Insert Roxygen Skeleton helps.
- ✓ Document each dataset with roxygen block above the name of the dataset in quotes.
- ✓ Document the package with use\_package\_doc().

# ? vignettes/

- ✓ Create a vignette that is included with your package with use vignette().
- Create an article that only appears on the website with use\_article().
- ☑ Write the body of your vignettes in R Markdown.

# Websites with pkgdown

- ✓ Use GitHub and use\_pkgdown\_github\_pages() to set up pkgdown and configures an automated workflow using GitHub Actions and Pages.
- If you're not using GitHub, call **use\_pkgdown()** to configure pkgdown. Then build locally with **pkgdown::build\_site()**.

#### **ROXYGEN2**

The **roxygen2** package lets you write documentation inline in your .R files with shorthand syntax.

- Add roxygen documentation as comments beginning with #'.
- Place a roxygen @ tag (right) after #' to supply a specific section of documentation.
- Untagged paragraphs will be used to generate a title, description, and details section (in that order).

```
#' Add together two numbers
#'
#' @param x A number.
#' @param y A number.
#' @returns The sum of `x` and `y`.
#' @export
#' @examples
#' add(1, 1)
add <- function(x, y) {
   x + y
}</pre>
```

#### **COMMON ROXYGEN TAGS**

@description
 @family
 @returns
 @seealso
 @examplesIf
 @param
 @export
 @rdname

### README.Rmd + NEWS.md

Create a README and NEWS markdown files with use\_readme\_rmd() and use\_news\_md().

**Tests** 

# ? tests/

- ✓ Create a test file with use\_test().
- Write tests with test\_that() and expect\_().
- ☑ Run all tests with test() and run tests for current file with test\_active\_file().
- See coverage of all files with **test\_coverage()** and see coverage of current file with **test\_coverage\_active\_file()**.

#### Expect statement

expect\_equal()
expect\_error()
expect\_snapshot()

Is equal? (within numerical tolerance)

Throws specified error?

Output is unchanged?

```
test_that("Math works", {
  expect_equal(1 + 1, 2)
  expect_equal(1 + 2, 3)
  expect_equal(1 + 3, 4)
})
```

# ? data/

- Record how a data set was prepared as an R script and save that script to ? data-raw/ with use\_data\_raw().
- ✓ Save a prepared data object to ? data/ with use\_data().

# Package States

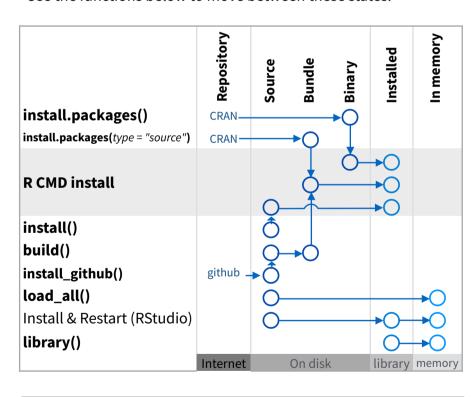
The contents of a package can be stored on disk as a:

- **source** a directory with sub-directories (as shown in Package structure)
- **bundle** a single compressed file (.tar.qz)
- binary a single compressed file optimized for a specific OS

Packages exist in those states locally or remotely, e.g. on CRAN or on GitHub.

From those states, a package can be installed into an R library and then loaded into memory during an R session.

Use the functions below to move between these states.





Visit **r-pkgs.org** to learn much more about writing and publishing packages for R.

