

RESOURCE GUIDE

Your R launch checklist ☐

R is a free programming language for statistical computing and graphics, popular among data analysts.

- **Download “base R” from CRAN.** This is R’s “source code” and can be downloaded from the “Comprehensive R Archive Network” (CRAN) at r-project.org. More information is available at my post, [“Installing RStudio.”](#)
- **Download RStudio.** As an open-source program, anyone is free to build “on top of” R’s “source code.” RStudio provides a more comprehensive environment R programming and is the de facto platform for working in R. Download directly from rstudio.com or check out my post, [“Installing RStudio.”](#)
- **Read my FREE white paper,** “Five Things Excel Users Should Know About R.” This is a short paper meant to give (specifically Excel) users enough context about R to get started using it. You'll receive this white paper as part of signing up for this checklist.

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- **Peruse my #rstats tag.** I have a handful of [R-related posts on my blog](#) which give you a good flavor of various uses for R (or, as it's known in hashtagland, #rstats).

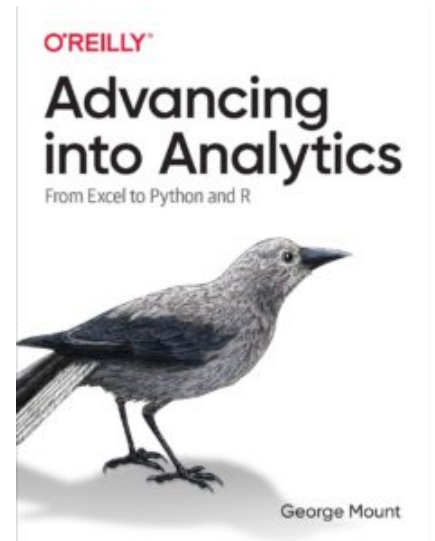
Of particular interest for new R users:

- [R packages explained for Excel users](#)
 - [A tour of RStudio](#)
 - [Data entry with R's text editor](#)
 - [What is a vector?](#)
 - [Assigning variables](#)
 - [What is a data frame?](#)
 - [What is a directory?](#)
 - [Five ways to get help in R](#)
- **Subscribe to [R-bloggers.com](#).** This is a “daily roundup” of blog posts about R — you will be astonished by the scale and scope of what people are using R to do.



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- **Read my book, *Advancing into Analytics: From Excel to Python and R*.** Sometimes the only way to learn is to “fully commit” oneself and reading my book about fully “pivoting” Excel knowledge into R is a great choice. More about the book, including how to **read for free** is available here.



- **Liftoff!** With the previous steps taken, you're ready to explore R on your own. Feel free to stop by the blog anytime to check in for more R and analytics resources, and don't hesitate to get in touch if I can help you or your organization in these endeavors.