Significant Change since R version 4.0.0

https://stat.ethz.ch/R-manual/R-devel/doc/html/NEWS.html

"**R** now uses a stringsAsFactors = FALSE default, and hence by default no longer converts strings to factors in calls to `data.frame()` and `read.table()`.

A large number of packages relied on the previous behaviour and so have needed/will need updating."

This means that compared to earlier versions of R (e.g. ADA1 textbook based on version 3.6.1), if you read in datasets into R, the resulting data type for string or factor columns could be different now due to version 4 change in stringsAsFactors default setting. But you can easily ensure the correct data type by changing the default value. (see ADA1 chapter 3 for detailed explanation and examples.)

How to Update R to latest version without re-installing all existing R packages

https://uvastatlab.github.io/phdplus/installR.html

How to install RStudio without Admin Rights on your laptop (assuming R already installed)

https://support.rstudio.com/hc/en-us/articles/200534467-Creating-a-Portable-Version-of-RStudio-for-a-USB-Drive

Tip:

Run `.libPaths()` to get folder location of installed R packages. This information will be very helpful if you run into problems installing R packages in future.