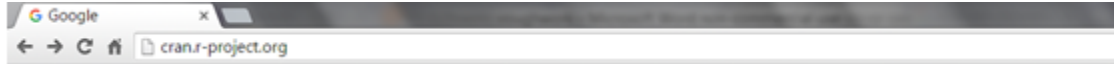


## Downloading and Installing R

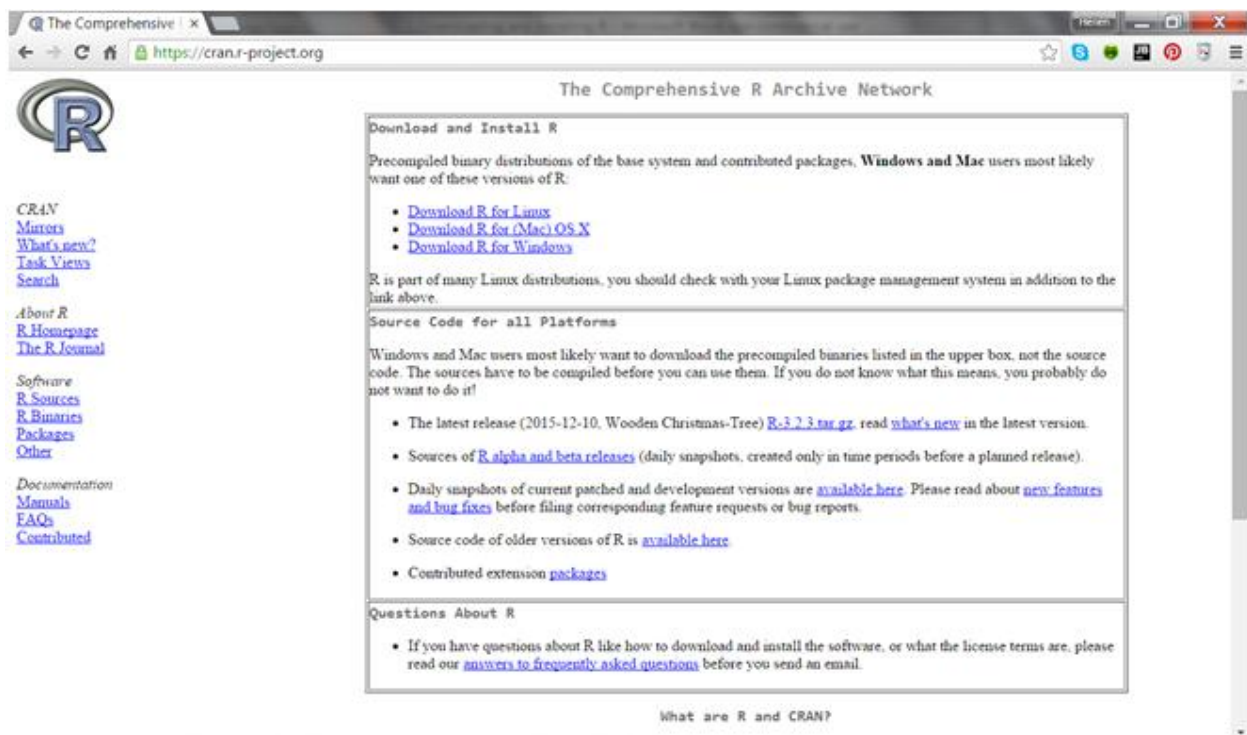
*This blog post is meant to accompany the slides on the same topic. They are an addition to the video demos (to be uploaded soon).*

### Downloading R

To download R, go to your internet browser and type “[cran.r-project.org](https://cran.r-project.org)”.



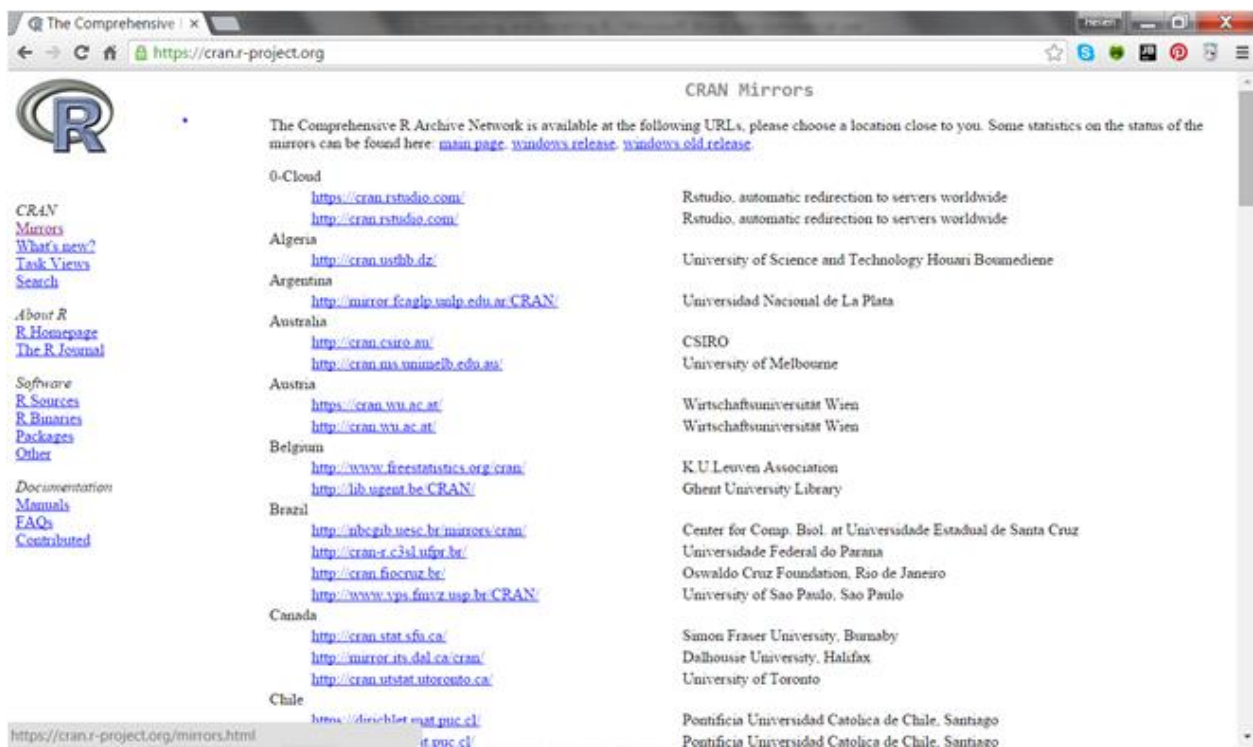
This will take you to CRAN's main website.



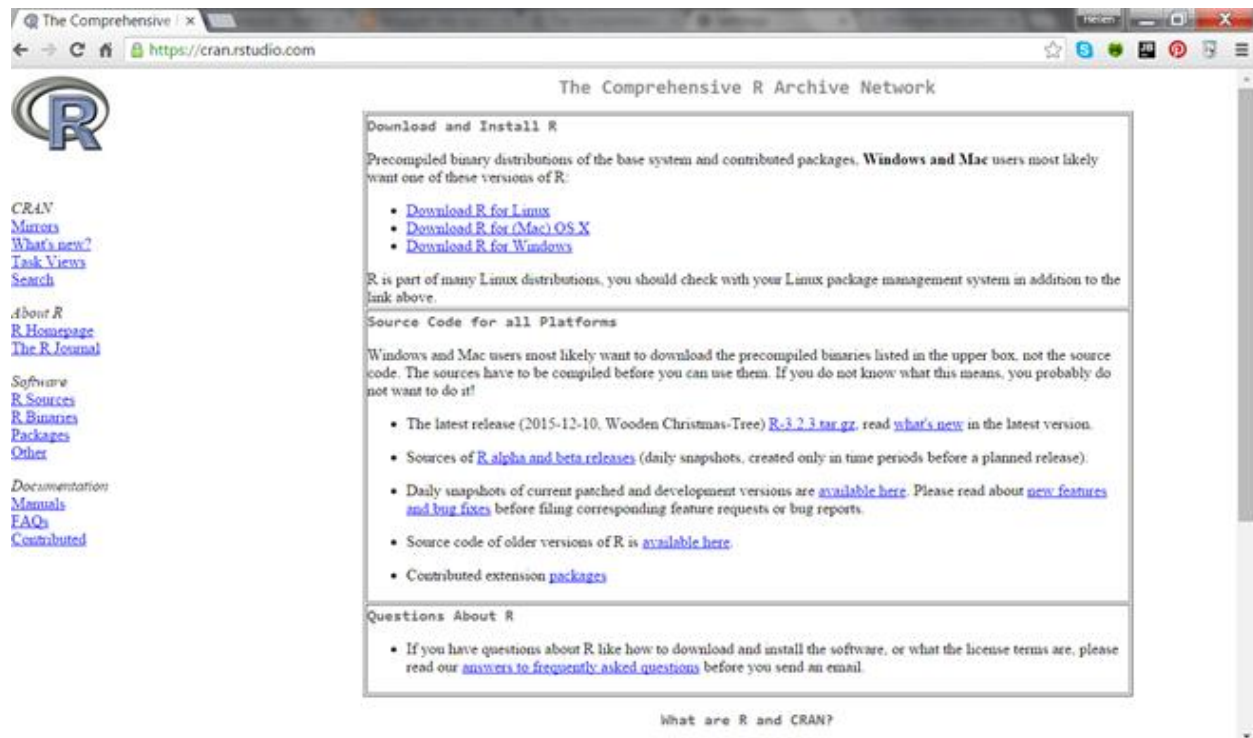
From CRAN you can download R for Linux, Mac or Windows operating systems. But for efficiency purposes, it is best to download the program from a mirror.



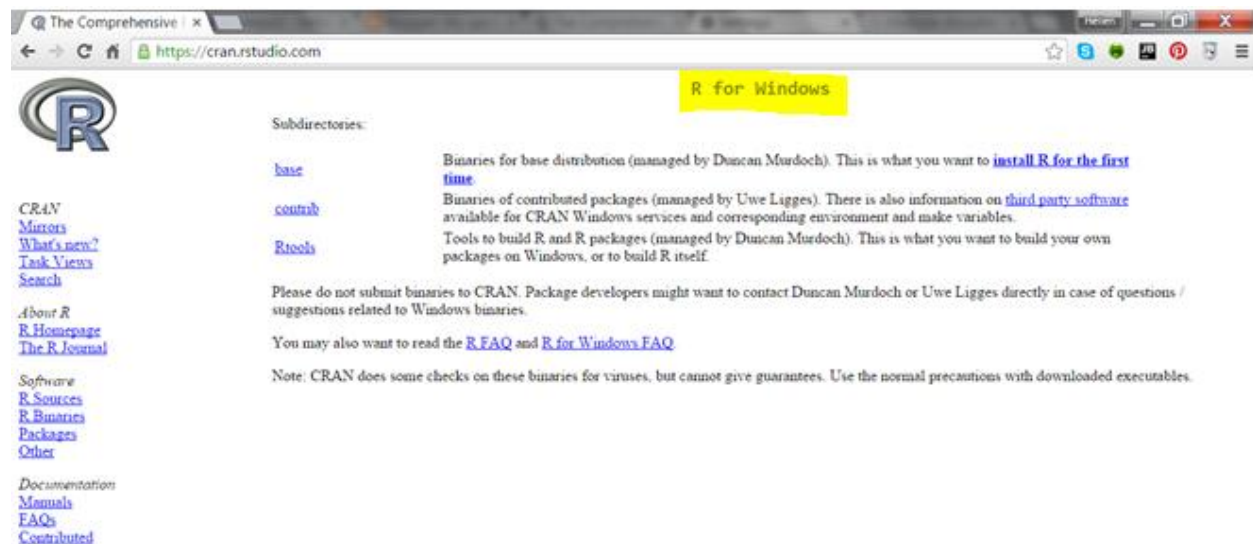
If you recall from the slides, CRAN's mirrors are identical copies of the master site located at various areas. The screenshot below shows some of the locations.



Go ahead and select a mirror closest to you. You should be directed to a site identical to CRAN's main website.



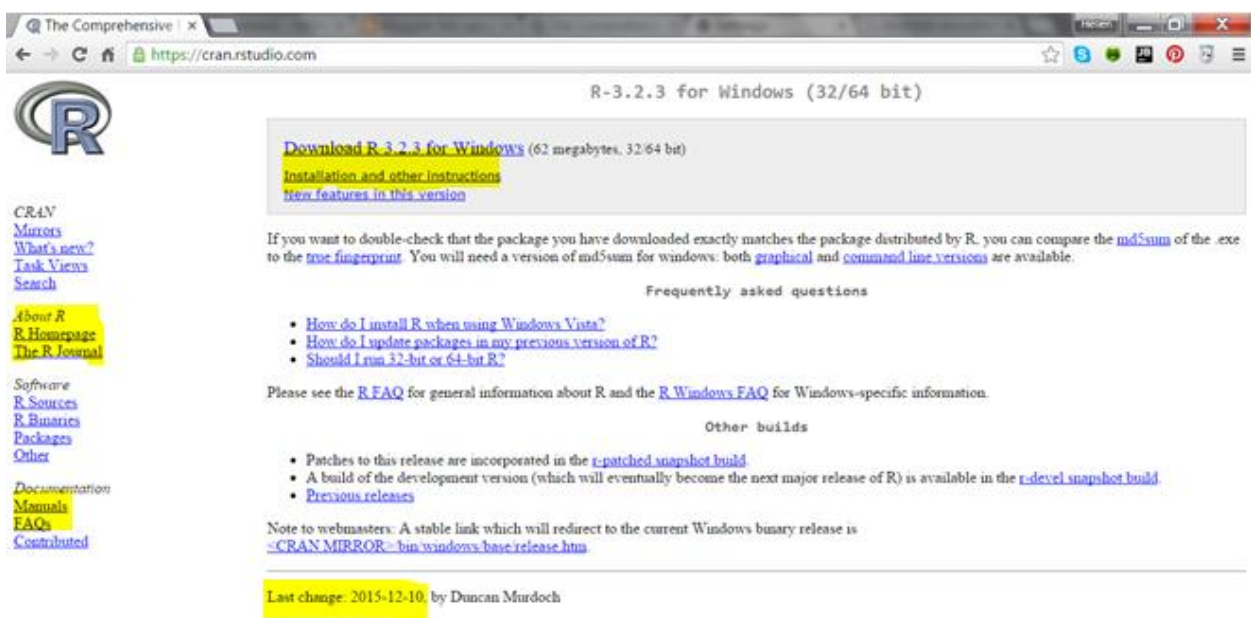
Now select the program that is suitable for your operating system. In this demo, I will download the windows version.



Click the "install R for the first time" from the base sub-directory.



With that done, you will be directed to the downloading site which also specifies the latest R version you will be installing. Please take note or read the highlighted sections in the screenshot.



Finally click on the download link and it should immediately begin the downloading process.

The screenshot shows the CRAN website for R-3.2.3 for Windows (32/64 bit). The page includes a navigation menu on the left with links like 'CRAN', 'Mirrors', 'What's new?', 'Task Views', 'Search', 'About R', 'R Homepage', 'The R Journal', 'Software', 'R Sources', 'R Binaries', 'Packages', 'Other', 'Documentation', 'Manuals', 'FAQs', and 'Contributed'. The main content area features a 'Download R 3.2.3 for Windows (62 megabytes, 32/64 bit)' link, followed by 'Installation and other instructions' and 'New features in this version'. A paragraph explains how to verify the download using md5sum and true fingerprints. Below this are 'Frequently asked questions' and 'Other builds'. A note to webmasters is also present. The download bar at the bottom shows 'R-3.2.3-win (1).exe' is downloading at 55.3/62.4 MB, 38 seconds remaining.

It might take some time so hold on until it completely downloads the program.

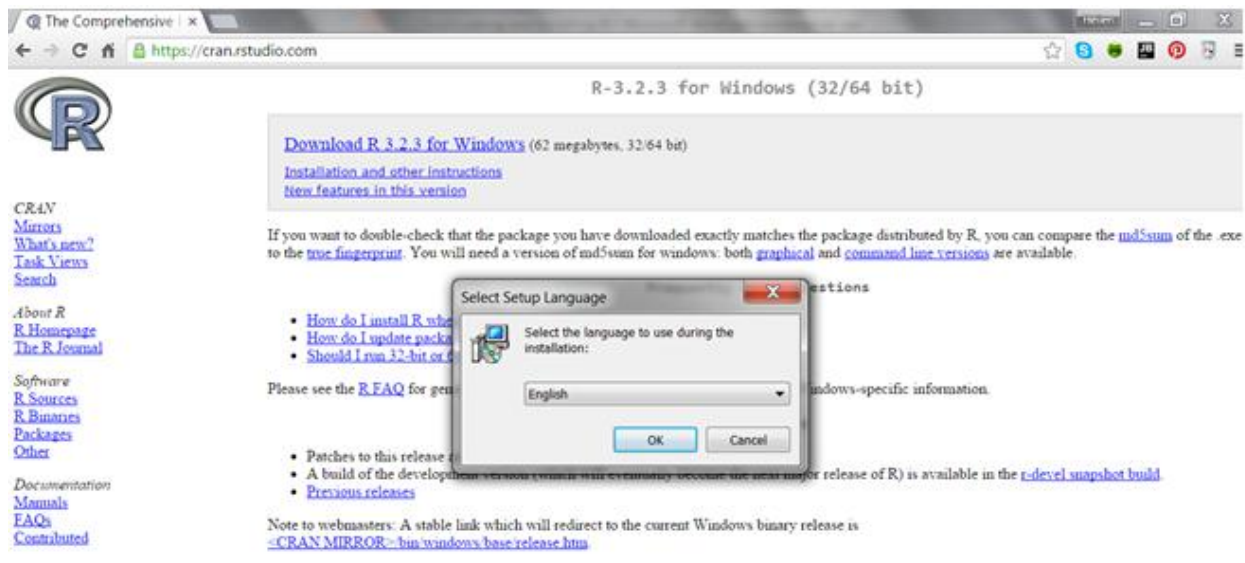
## Installing R

To begin the installation process, click on the downloaded executable program and then click Run.

The screenshot shows the same CRAN R-3.2.3 for Windows download page, but with a Windows Security Warning dialog box overlaid. The dialog box has the title 'Open File - Security Warning' and contains the following text: 'The publisher could not be verified. Are you sure you want to run this software?'. It lists the file name as 'C:\Users\Hellen Gakuru\Downloads\R-3.2.3-win (1).exe', the publisher as 'Unknown Publisher', the type as 'Application', and the source as 'C:\Users\Hellen Gakuru\Downloads\R-3.2.3-win (1).exe'. There are 'Run' and 'Cancel' buttons. A checkbox labeled 'Always ask before opening this file' is checked. At the bottom, a red X icon and text state: 'This file does not have a valid digital signature that verifies its publisher. You should only run software from publishers you trust. How can I decide what software to run?'. The 'Run' button is highlighted with a yellow box.



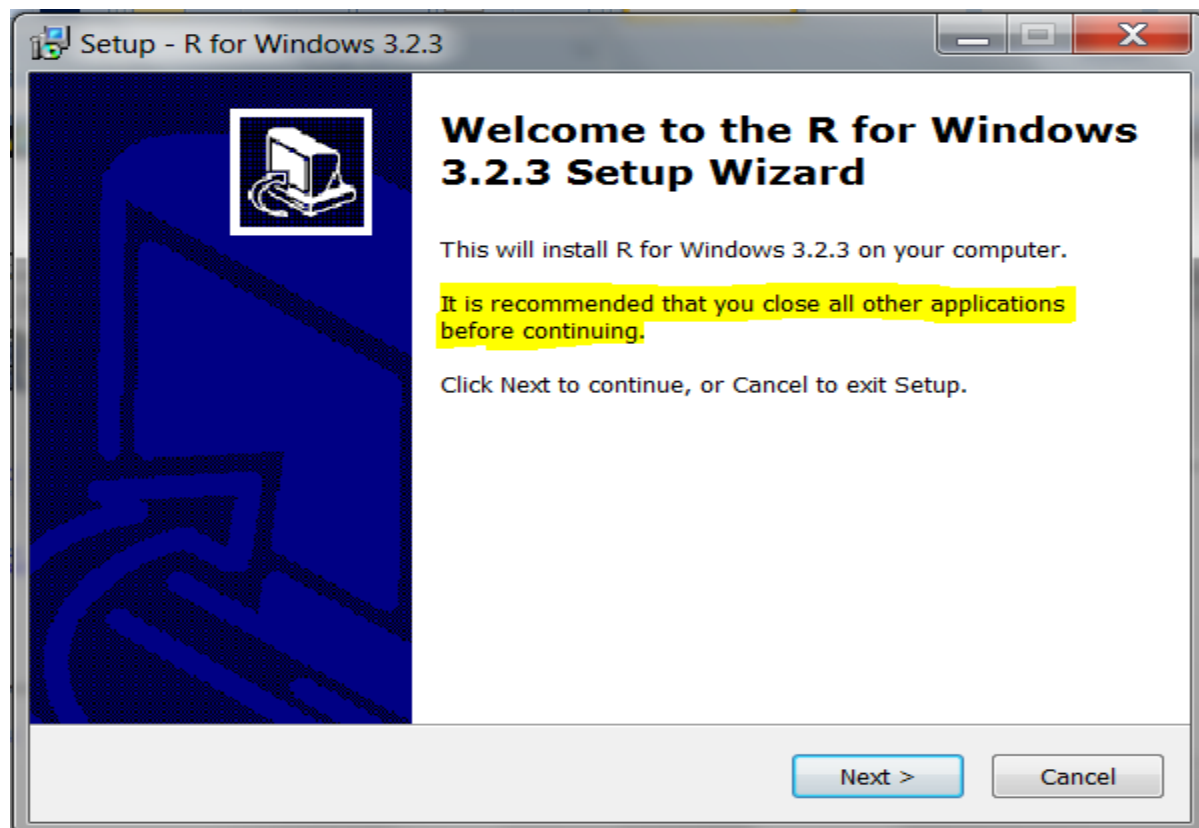
You might get a message asking if you want R to make changes to your computer, if so, click yes. A pop-up window should appear asking you to indicate the preferred setup language.



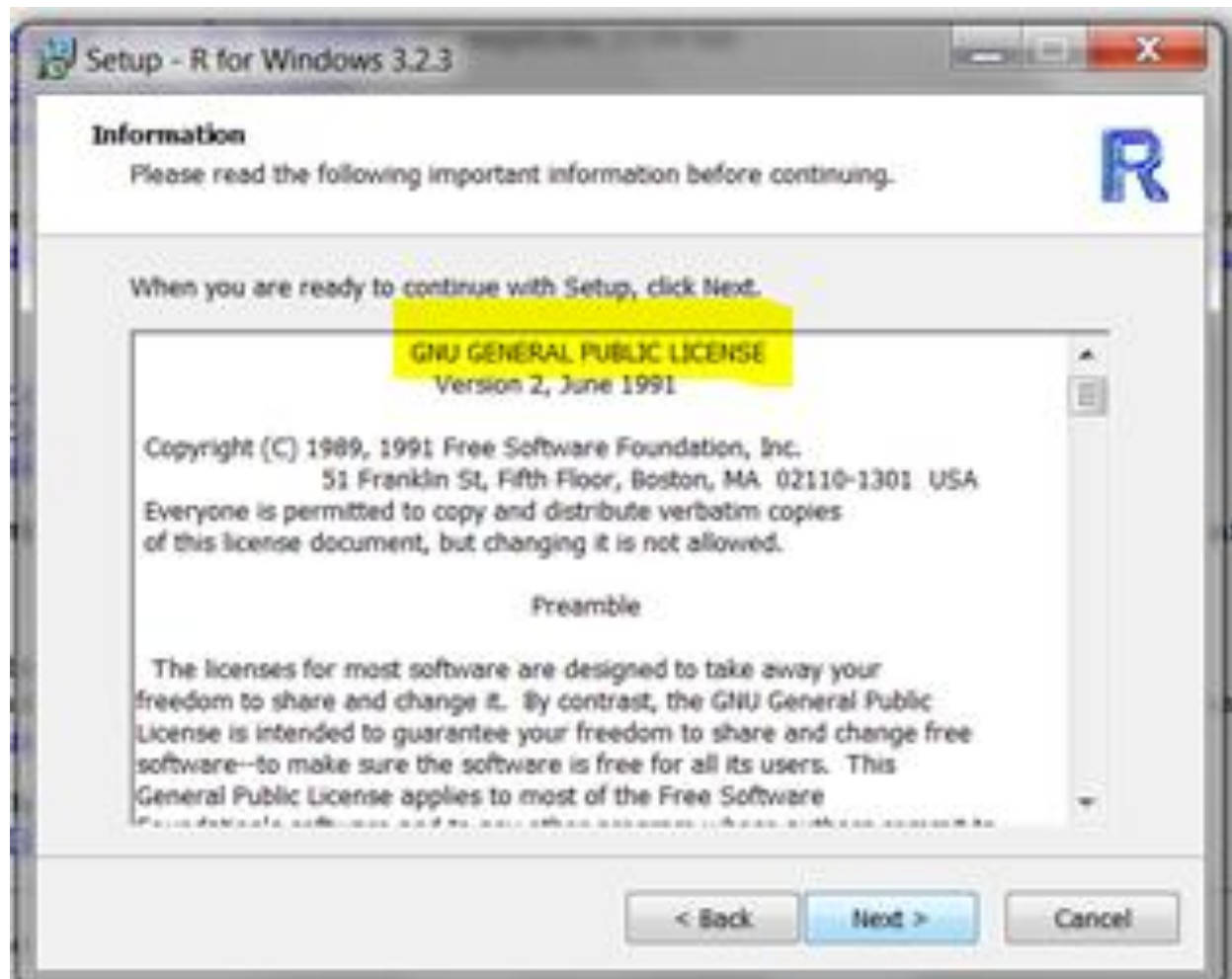
If English is not your preferred language, then select a more suitable one.



With the language selected, you will now get to the setup wizard which requires you to close all the other applications.



Click next to get to the license documentation

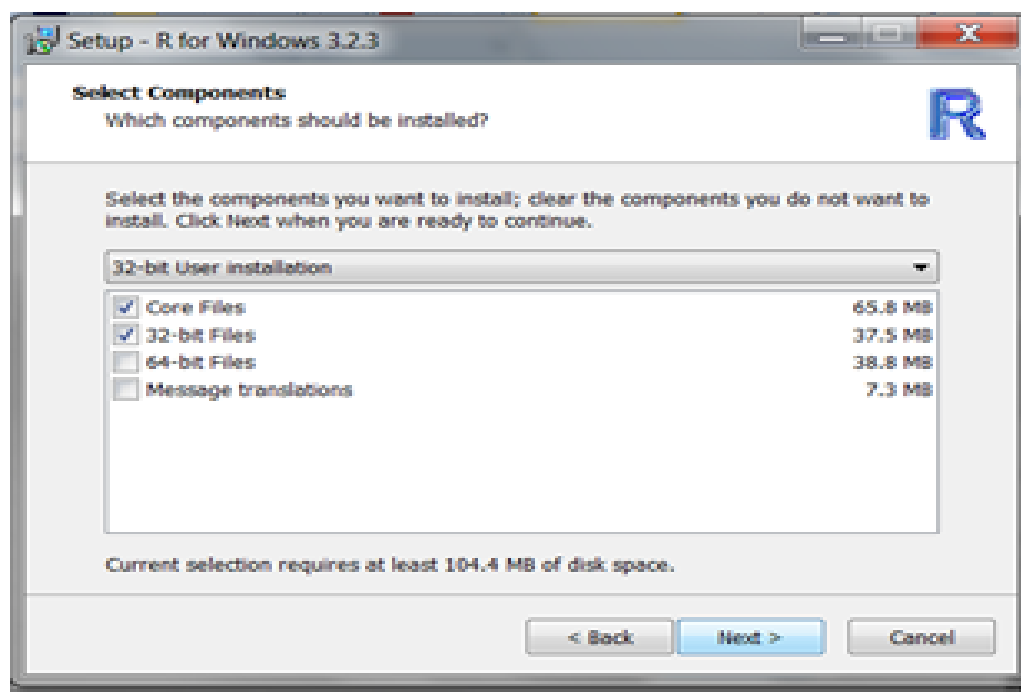


Next, indicate where you would like R to be installed. The default is usually the best, but you can use the browse button to indicate another location on your computer.

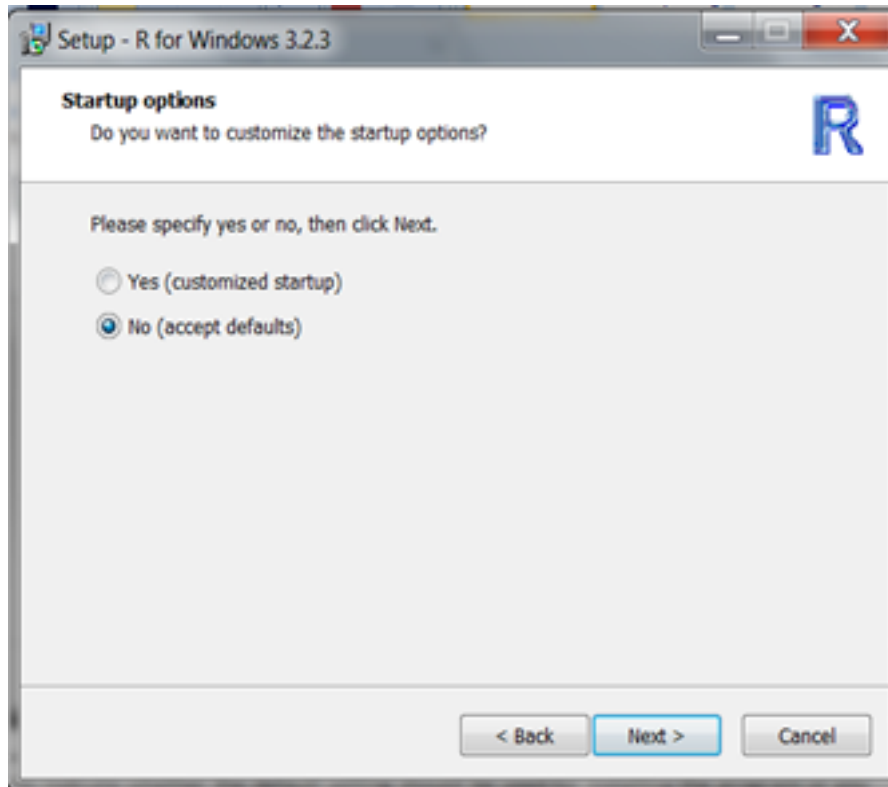




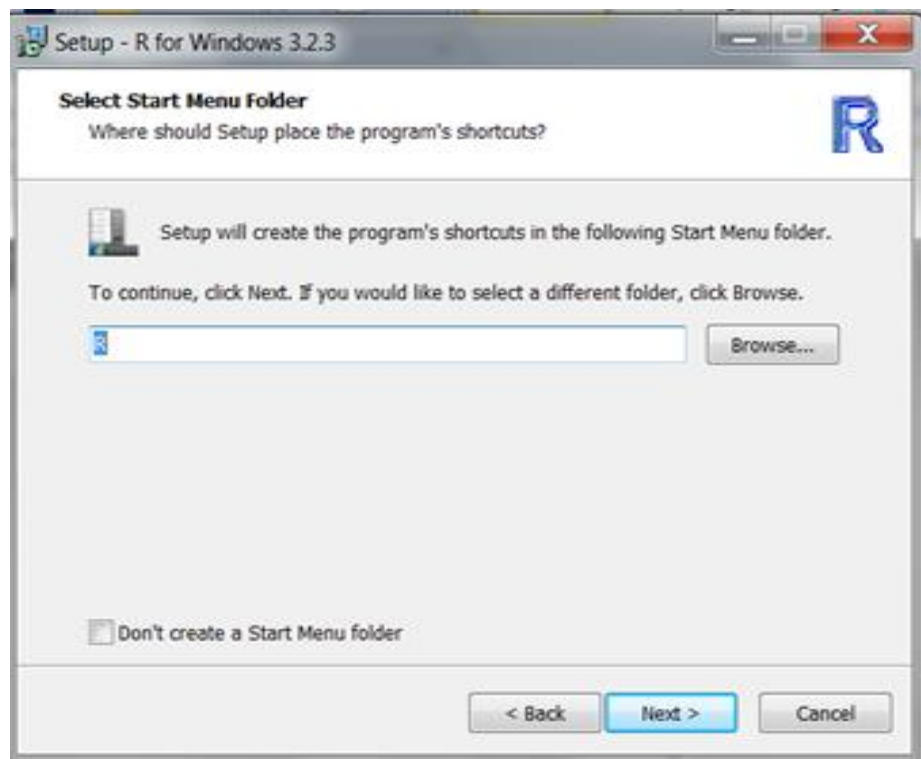
You can then select the R components to install with R. The default components are adequate since the setup will detect your PC's specification and recommend core files.



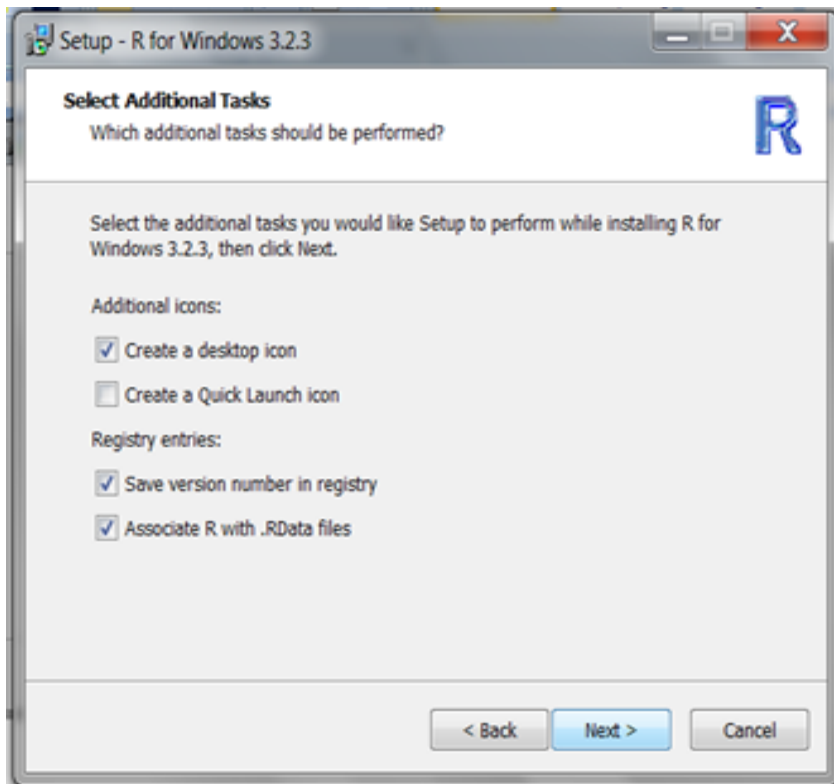
Once all that is done, you will get the opportunity to customize R's startup. The default is to accept the recommended startup but just to see what it entails, click yes to customize it.



The first startup option that you can change is the startup menu folder. The default is to have it within the R folder, but you can browse for another location. You can also indicate that the folder should not be created. However, the default setting here is recommended.



With the startup folder indicated, you can now indicate the additional tasks the installer should perform like creating a desktop icon, quick launch and registry entries.



Installation should begin immediately. Once done click on finish and you would have successfully installed base R.

