

# Packages

Packages are collections of R functions, data, and compiled code in a well-defined format. The directory where packages are stored is called the library. R comes with a standard set of packages. Others are available for download and installation. Once installed, they have to be loaded into the session to be used.

```
.libPaths() # get library location  
library()   # see all packages installed  
search()    # see packages currently loaded
```

## Adding Packages

You can expand the types of analyses you do by adding other packages. A complete [list of contributed packages](#) is available from CRAN.

Follow these steps:

- . Download and install a package (you only need to do this once).
- . To use the package, invoke the `library(package)` command to load it into the current session. (You need to do this once in each session, unless you [customize your environment](#) to automatically load it each time.)

On MS Windows:

- . Choose **Install Packages** from the **Packages** menu.
- . Select a **CRAN Mirror**. (e.g. Norway)
- . Select a package. (e.g. boot)
- . Then use the `library(package)` function to load it for use. (e.g. `library(boot)`)

On Linux:

- . Download the package of interest as a compressed file.
- . At the command prompt, install it using  
**R CMD INSTALL [options] [l-lib] pkgs**
- . Use the `library(package)` function within R to load it for use in the session.