

R Pie Chart (With Examples)



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In this article, you'll learn to create pie chart in R programming using the `pie()` function. You'll also learn to label them and color them.

Pie chart is drawn using the `pie()` function in R programming . This function takes in a vector of non-negative numbers.

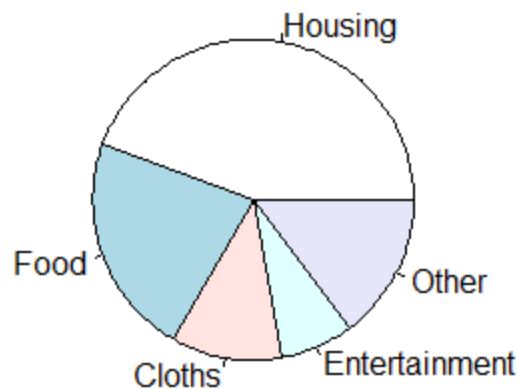
```
> expenditure
Housing Food Cloths Entertainment Other
600    300   150      100      200
```

Let us consider the above data represents the monthly expenditure breakdown of an individual.

Example: Simple pie chart using `pie()`

Now let us draw a simple pie chart out of this data using the `pie()` function.

```
pie(expenditure)
```



We can see above that a pie chart was plotted with 5 slices. The chart was drawn in anti-clockwise direction using pastel colors.

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We can pass in additional parameters to affect the way pie chart is drawn. You can read about it in the help section `?pie`.

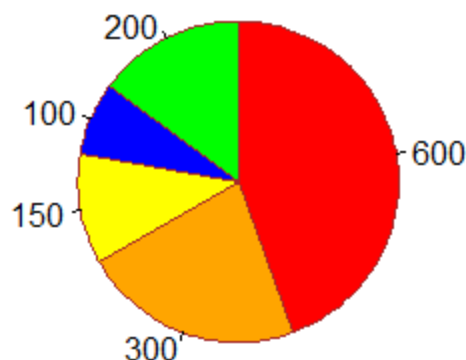
Some of the frequently used ones are, `labels` -to give names to slices, `main` -to add a title, `col` -to define colors for the slices and `border` -to color the borders.

We can also pass the argument `clockwise=TRUE` to draw the chart in clockwise fashion.

Example 2: Pie chart with additional parameters

```
pie(expenditure,  
    labels=as.character(expenditure),  
    main="Monthly Expenditure Breakdown",  
    col=c("red","orange","yellow","blue","green"),  
    border="brown",  
    clockwise=TRUE  
)
```

Monthly Expenditure Breakdown



As seen in the above figure, we have used the actual amount as labels. Also, the chart is drawn in clockwise fashion.

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Since the human eye is relatively bad at judging angles, other types of charts are appropriate than pie charts.

This is also stated in the R documentation – "Pie charts are a very bad way of displaying information."

"The eye is good at judging linear measures and bad at judging relative areas. A bar chart or dot chart is a preferable way of displaying this type of data."