Simple Tips in R to Save you Time

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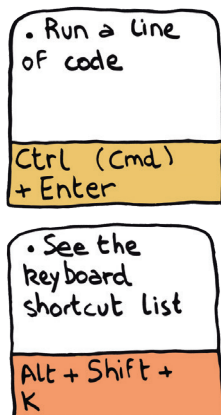Illustrator: **Emilie Walsh**

Are you just starting out with R? Do you have some experience with R, but seem to spend many hours solving what seem to be silly mistakes?

We have all been there! In fact, we will always be there. Debugging is an art inherent to any programming task, independent of the programming language itself. However, that doesn't mean that you can't make the task easier. There are some small things that you can do to make your coding in R more efficient. Here I share with you some basic tips that I wish I knew as I started coding in R. I hope that this short collection of tips will help you reduce those hours and hours of coding and debugging. Let's get started!

Tip 1:

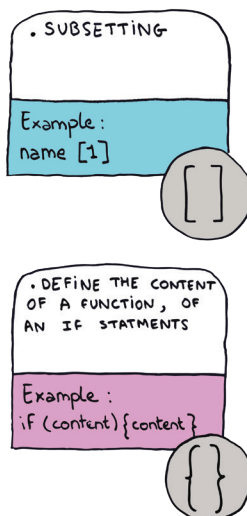### Use keyboard shortcuts for tasks you do often

There is more than one way of doing things in R. A clear example of this is keyboard shortcuts. There are plenty of keyboard shortcuts for common tasks that will help you improve your productivity while coding. Start with one and you will be surprised by how fast these shortcuts get imprinted in your memory!

Tip 2:

Know your brackets and don't forget to give them a buddy

There are different types of brackets in R, each one with its own unique functionality. However, whatever the bracket type, each one needs to have a partner of the same type. Mixing them up is guaranteed to create problems!

Tip 3:

Understand some crucial console information

Sometimes the console is not ready for a new command. Rather, the console will tell you when it is ready for a new command.

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