

Multi-Page dplyr

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1 Background

`dplyr` is a very powerful R library for managing and processing data.¹

While `dplyr` is very powerful, learning to use `dplyr` can be very confusing. This guide aims to present some of the most common `dplyr` functions and commands in the form of a brief cheatsheet.

¹ The origins of the name `dplyr` seem somewhat obscure, but I sometimes think of this package as the *data plyers*.

```
library(dplyr)
```

2 Simulated Data

| year | x | y | z |
|------|-------|---------|-------|
| 2017 | NA | Group B | 91.67 |
| 2015 | 49.34 | Group C | 93.32 |
| 2018 | 66.47 | Group A | 99.1 |

| year | x | y | z |
|------|-------|---------|-------|
| 2017 | 39.48 | Group A | 98.9 |
| 2016 | 52.96 | Group A | 86.07 |

3 Piping

Pipes `%>%` connect pieces of a command e.g. *data* to *data wrangling* to a *graph command*.

`dplyr` commands will often look something like the outline below.

```
mydata %>%
  data_wrangling %>%
  more_data_wrangling %>%
  graph_command
```

4 Aggregate Data: `group_by()` & `summarise()`

```
mynewdata <- mydata %>%
  group_by(year) %>% # group by y
  summarise(mean_x = mean(x), # mean of x
            n = n()) # count up
```

| year | mean_x | n |
|------|--------|---|
| 2015 | 49.34 | 1 |
| 2016 | 52.96 | 1 |
| 2017 | NA | 2 |
| 2018 | 66.47 | 1 |

5 Select A Subset of Variables: `select()`

```
mynewdata <- mydata %>%
  select(x,y) # select only x and y
```

| x | y |
|-------|---------|
| NA | Group B |
| 49.34 | Group C |
| 66.47 | Group A |
| 39.48 | Group A |
| 52.96 | Group A |

6 Filter A Subset of Rows: filter()

```
mynewdata <- mydata %>%
  filter(year > 2010) # filter on year
```

| year | x | y | z |
|------|-------|---------|-------|
| 2017 | NA | Group B | 91.67 |
| 2015 | 49.34 | Group C | 93.32 |
| 2018 | 66.47 | Group A | 99.1 |
| 2017 | 39.48 | Group A | 98.9 |
| 2016 | 52.96 | Group A | 86.07 |

7 Create New Variables: mutate()

```
mynewdata <- mydata %>%
  mutate(myscale = x + z) # create a new variable e.g. a scale
```

| year | x | y | z | myscale |
|------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| 2017 | NA | Group B | 91.67 | NA |
| 2015 | 49.34 | Group C | 93.32 | 142.7 |
| 2018 | 66.47 | Group A | 99.1 | 165.6 |
| 2017 | 39.48 | Group A | 98.9 | 138.4 |
| 2016 | 52.96 | Group A | 86.07 | 139 |

8 Recode Variables: mutate()

8.1 Continuous Into Categorical: mutate() & cut()

```
mynewdata <- mydata %>%
  mutate(zcategorical = cut(z, # cut at breaks
                           breaks=c(-Inf, 100, Inf),
                           labels = c("low", "high")))
```

| year | x | y | z | zcategorical |
|------|-------|---------|-------|--------------|
| 2017 | NA | Group B | 91.67 | low |
| 2015 | 49.34 | Group C | 93.32 | low |
| 2018 | 66.47 | Group A | 99.1 | low |
| 2017 | 39.48 | Group A | 98.9 | low |
| 2016 | 52.96 | Group A | 86.07 | low |

8.2 Categorical Into Categorical: mutate() & recode()

```
mynewdata <- mydata %>%
  mutate(yrecoded = dplyr::recode(y, # recode values
    "Group A" = "Red Group",
    "Group B" = "Blue Group",
    .default = "Other"))
```

| year | x | y | z | yrecoded |
|------|-------|---------|-------|------------|
| 2017 | NA | Group B | 91.67 | Blue Group |
| 2015 | 49.34 | Group C | 93.32 | Other |
| 2018 | 66.47 | Group A | 99.1 | Red Group |
| 2017 | 39.48 | Group A | 98.9 | Red Group |
| 2016 | 52.96 | Group A | 86.07 | Red Group |

9 Rename Variables: rename()

```
newdata <- mydata %>%
  rename(age = x, # rename
    mental_health = z)
```

| year | age | y | mental_health |
|------|-------|---------|---------------|
| 2017 | NA | Group B | 91.67 |
| 2015 | 49.34 | Group C | 93.32 |
| 2018 | 66.47 | Group A | 99.1 |
| 2017 | 39.48 | Group A | 98.9 |
| 2016 | 52.96 | Group A | 86.07 |

10 Drop Missing Values: filter()

```
newdata <- mydata %>%
  filter(!is.na(x)) # filter by x is not missing
```

| year | x | y | z |
|------|-------|---------|-------|
| 2015 | 49.34 | Group C | 93.32 |
| 2018 | 66.47 | Group A | 99.1 |
| 2017 | 39.48 | Group A | 98.9 |
| 2016 | 52.96 | Group A | 86.07 |

11 Random Sample

```
newdata <- mydata %>%
  sample_frac(.5) # fraction of data to sample
```

| year | x | y | z |
|------|-------|---------|-------|
| 2016 | 52.96 | Group A | 86.07 |
| 2017 | 39.48 | Group A | 98.9 |

12 Connecting To Other Packages Like ggplot

Notice how, in the code below, I never actually create the new data set `mynewdata`. I simply pipe `mydata` into a `dplyr` command, and pipe the result directly to `ggplot2`.

```
library(ggplot2)

mydata %>% # my data
  mutate(myscale = x + z) %>% # dplyr command to make new variable
  filter(y != "Group C") %>% # filter on values of y
  ggplot(aes(x = year, # the rest is ggplot
             y = myscale)) +
  geom_point() + # points
  geom_smooth(se = FALSE, # smoother without confidence interval
             method = "lm") + # linear smoother
  labs(title = "My Scale By Year") + # labels
  theme(axis.text.x = element_text(size = 10, # tweak theme
                                    angle = 90))
```

