

# Reporting data results #1

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**Make order meaningful**

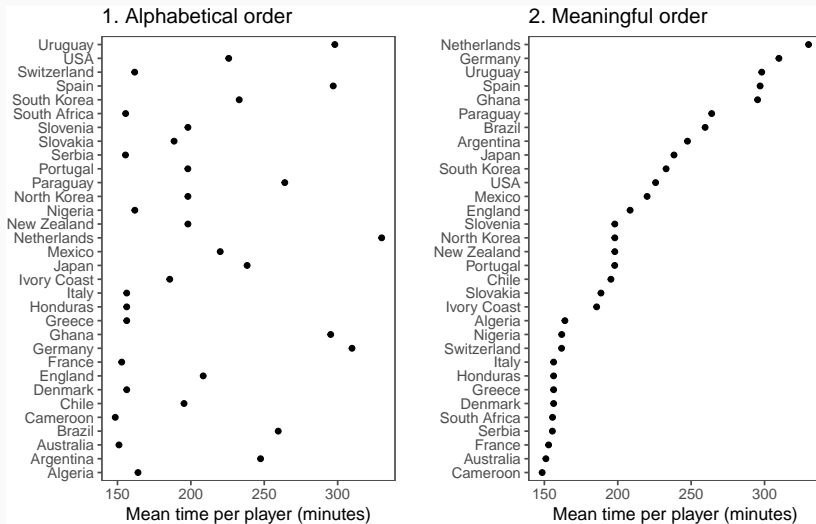
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Guideline 4: **Make order meaningful.**

You can make the ranking of data clearer from a graph by using order to show rank. Often, factor or categorical variables are ordered by something that is not interesting, like alphabetical order.

# Order

## Guideline 4: Make order meaningful.





**Bureau of Meteorology, Australia** ✓ @BOM\_au · 16h

We're updating how #rainbows appear in Australia: Colours will now be in alphabetical order (#BGIORVY).

"This is the biggest change in Australian rainbows since 1975, when we moved from greyscale to colour," says BOM spectroscopist Arthur Hamilton. If you see one, send us a pic!



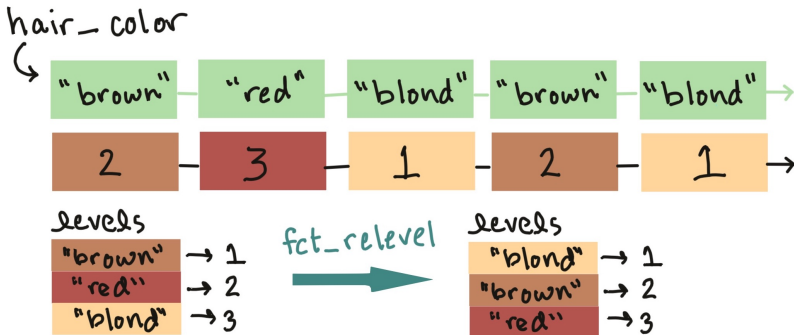
68 249 681

You can re-order factor variables in a graph by resetting the factor using several functions from the `forcats` package.

The simplest is `fct_relevel`, which lets you change the levels “by hand”.

See the “factors” cheatsheet for more `forcats` functions.

# Changing factor levels



*“And if you think that I’m going to miss even one opportunity to pick up half-a-mile boat speed, you’re absolutely out of your mind. When it costs us nothing, when we give up nothing?! You’re out of your mind.”*

*Bruno, The West Wing, “The Indians in the Lobby”*