

# Install LaTeX

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## Installing L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X comes bundled in a “distribution.” Go to the Latex Project’s download page [here](#) and choose the distribution that matches your system. If you have a Mac, you don’t have a lot of choice. Windows has a few options. I can’t speak to which one you should download, but MiKTeX and TeXLive are the two I hear about most frequently. All options will include a number of additional software options along with the core T<sub>E</sub>X software. You can delete the extra stuff later depending on what you find useful, but it’s probably a good idea to start with all of it. Expect these downloads to be ~1.5GB.

## Updating

After you install, the first thing you’ll want to do is make sure that everything is up to date. If you installed the full distribution, open the TexLive utility. You will probably be prompted to update the utility itself first. You’ll need to do that in order to update any L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X packages. Once you have relaunched the updated TexLive utility, go to Actions → Update All Packages. Again, this will take some time to complete. You should be ready to go after this process is complete.

## RStudio Settings

After you install everything, open up RStudio and make sure that you have the knitr package installed (you should, but you can check by running `installed.packages()` or `grep("knitr", installed.packages()[,1])` if you’re feeling dangerous). It should be installed by default, but if it’s not, then install it using `install.packages("knitr")`. Next, go to the settings/preferences and in the Sweave set of settings (tab on the left), change the first option “Weave Rnw files using” to “knitr” and the second option, “Typeset LaTeX file into PDF using” to “pdflatex”.<sup>1</sup> You probably also want to make sure that the option “Clean auxiliary files after compile” is checked. See Fig. 1.

## Additional Software

You may also want to consider installing Pandoc (available [here](#) or through Homebrew) which will allow you to move between many different file formats, including .tex and .docx.

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<sup>1</sup>Okay, technically, you can have this set to “XeLaTeX” and nothing terrible should happen.

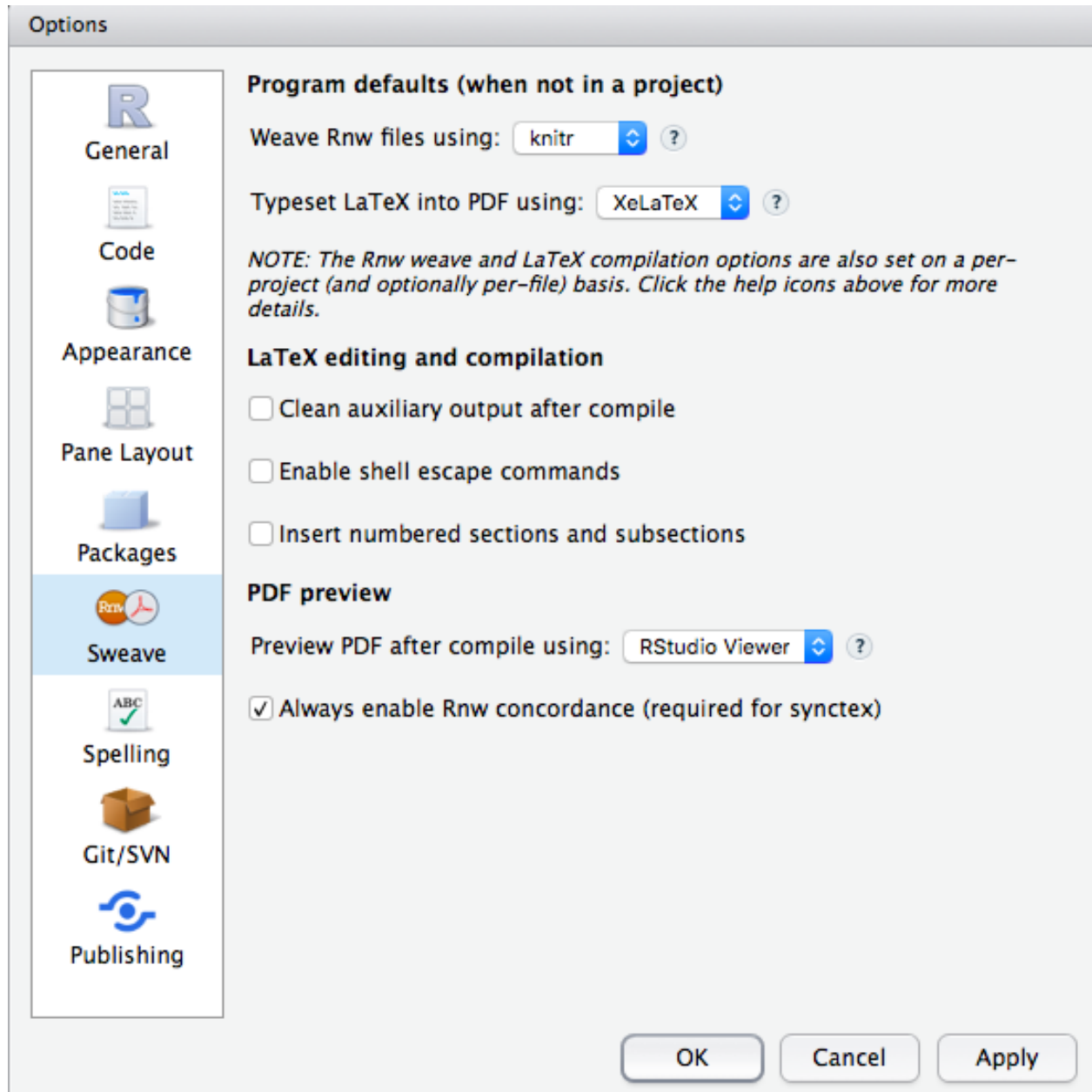


Figure 1: Sweave settings in RStudio