

Installing R and RStudio

Windows

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This guide walks you through installing **R** (the programming language) and **RStudio** (the integrated development environment, IDE) on your computer. Please follow the steps carefully **in the order shown**.

Important: R and RStudio are separate programs. You must install **R** first, then **RStudio**.

1. What You Will Install

- **R:** The statistical computing language that runs your code
- **RStudio:** A user-friendly interface that makes working with R much easier

Both are **free and open source**.

2. Check Your Operating System

Before starting, confirm which operating system you are using. This guide is specific to **Windows** (Windows 10 or 11).

3. Installation workflow

As of today, the latest stable version of R is 4.5.2. It is possible that when you actually use this guide, the version number might differ slightly. That should not be a problem and should not change this workflow.

3.1. Install R on Windows

1. Go to the Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN):

<https://cran.r-project.org>

Download and Install R

Precompiled binary distributions of the base system and contributed packages, **Windows and Mac** users most likely want one of these versions of R:

- [Download R for Linux](#) ([Debian](#), [Fedora/Redhat](#), [Ubuntu](#))
- [Download R for macOS](#)
- [Download R for Windows](#)

R is part of many Linux distributions, you should check with your Linux package management system in addition to the link above.

2. Click **Download R for Windows**.
3. Click **base**.

R for Windows

Subdirectories:

base	Binaries for base distribution. This is what you want to install R for the first time .
contrib	Binaries of contributed CRAN packages (for R >= 4.0.x).
old contrib	Binaries of contributed CRAN packages for outdated versions of R (for R < 4.0.x).
Rtools	Tools to build R and R packages. This is what you want to build your own packages on Windows, or to build R itself.

4. Click **Download R 4.5.2 for Windows** (*the version number may differ*).

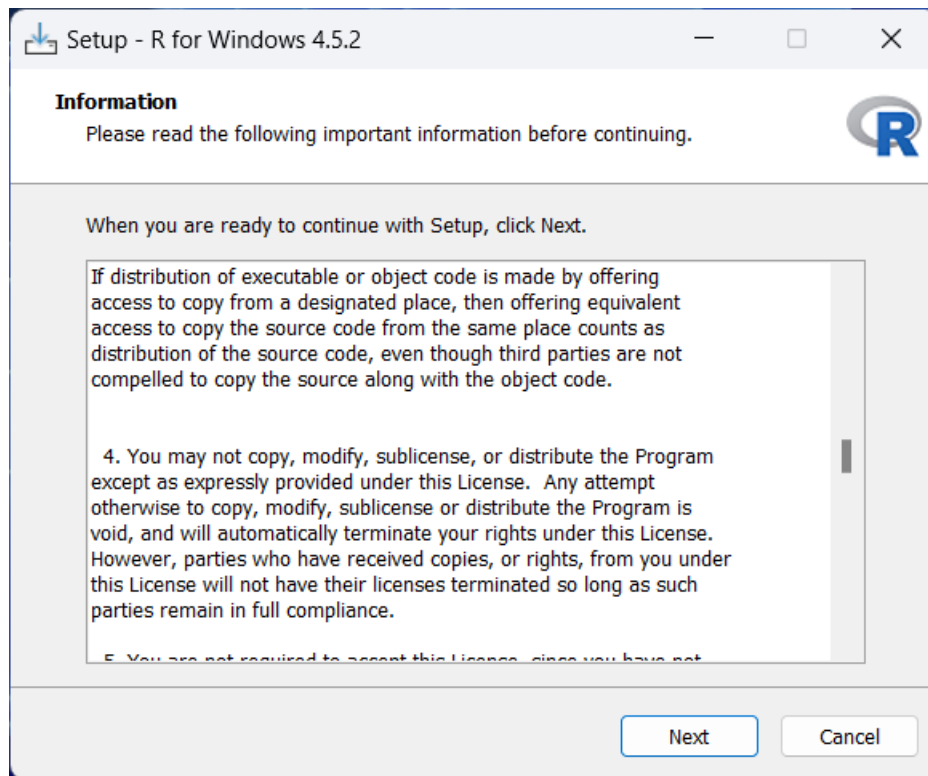
R-4.5.2 for Windows

[Download R-4.5.2 for Windows](#) (87 megabytes, 64 bit)

[README on the Windows binary distribution](#)
[New features in this version](#)

This build requires UCRT, which is part of Windows since Windows 10 and Windows Server 2016. On older systems, UCRT has to be installed manually from [here](#).

5. Once the file finishes downloading, double-click it.
6. Follow the installer instructions:
 - Accept the license
 - Use default settings



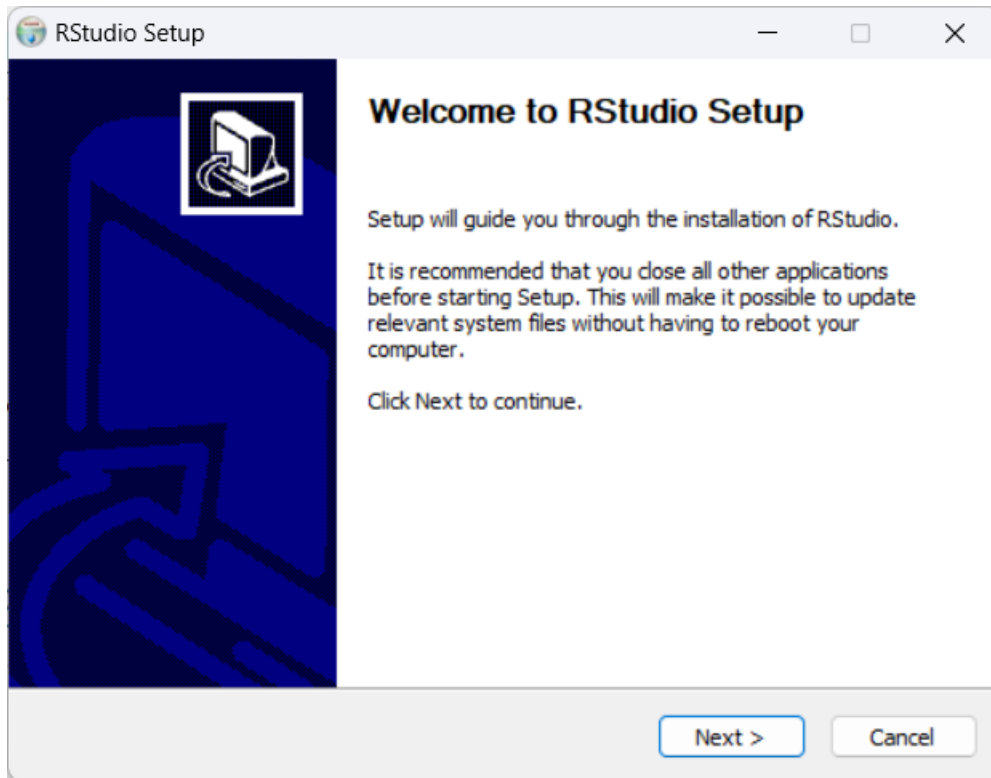
7. Finish the installation.

3.2. Install RStudio on Windows

1. Go to:
<https://posit.co/download/rstudio-desktop/>
2. Scroll down to the installer table

OS	Download	Size	SHA-256
Windows 10/11	RSTUDIO-2025.09.2-418.EXE ↕	296.74 MB	439D3200
macOS 13+	RSTUDIO-2025.09.2-418.DMG ↕	656.36 MB	9D1719CE
Ubuntu 22/Debian 12	RSTUDIO-2025.09.2-418-AMD64.DEB ↕	226.04 MB	1ECA6CA3

3. Under **Download**, click **RStudio-2025.09.2-418.exe**. (the RStudio version might be slightly different depending on when you are reading this, but the logic is the same)
4. Download the Windows **.exe** installer.
5. Double-click the downloaded file.



6. Follow the installer steps using default options.

4. Common Issues and Fixes

RStudio Does Not Open

- Make sure R is installed **before** RStudio
 - Restart your computer
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5. Installation complete

If you were able to get to this point without problems, you are now ready to start using R and RStudio for this course.

When you open RStudio, you should see something like the image below:

