

Using data in R

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Changing the order of levels of a factor

You have:

```
> my_factor1  
[1] A A B B C  
Levels: A B C
```

You want:

```
> my_factor2  
[1] A A B B C  
Levels: C B A
```

You do:

```
> ## Using base:  
> my_factor2 <- factor(my_factor1, levels(my_factor1)[c(3, 2, 1)])  
> my_factor2  
[1] A A B B C  
Levels: C B A
```

Note:

the order of levels influences the output of linear models and plotting functions (e.g. order in the legend of a ggplot) ...

Changing the levels of a factor

You have:

```
> my_factor1  
[1] A A B B C  
Levels: A B C
```

You want:

```
> my_factor2  
[1] A A A A D  
Levels: A D
```

You do:

```
> ## Using base:  
> levels(my_factor1)  
[1] "A" "B" "C"  
  
> my_factor2 <- my_factor1  
> levels(my_factor2) <- c("A", "A", "D") ## in same order!  
> my_factor2  
[1] A A A A D  
Levels: A D  
  
> ## Using dplyr:  
> my_factor2 <- recode(my_factor1, A = "A", B = "A", C = "D")  
> my_factor2  
[1] A A A A D  
Levels: A D
```