The Challenges

* What is mtcars? Isis? Starwars?
* Hold on, I wanna use my data
* But what happens? How’s it get in there?

Basic Object Assignment Concepts

* “object” = “variable” = all different kinds of data
  + Single values
  + Vector, a single column of values
  + Data frame, a spreadsheet OR a list of columns
* Use <- to assign stuff. Anything can be assigned.
* Use the Environment pane to see what’s out there
  + (mtcars is tricky)

Getting Data Into R

* Use the readr package
  + Mostly read\_csv()
    - point it at a csv file (NOT an excel file!!)
    - it’ll try to guess column formats for you
* Got Excel files? No problem, use readxl::read\_excel()
  + More guessing
* Hate guessing? Like to get angry? Go old school and use read.csv()
  + stringsAsFactors = T is gonna be a bad time
* already got your data in a database? Use DBI to connected to it
* Don’t have db permissions? Do you have reports? Put them in the same place every time and treat them like a datawarehouse.
* My all time favorite: read from the clipboard!!!

Getting Data Out of R

* Use readr::write\_csv() to write out a csv file. Don’t send this to the VP—it’s ugly.
* No good way to write Excel files
* Writing to a database is possible—check out some links
* Write to your clipboard!!!