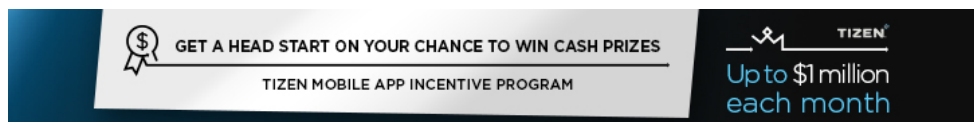


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Installing R on Mac - Warning messages: Setting LC_CTYPE failed, using "C"



I would like install R on my laptop Mac OS X version 10.7.3

I downloaded the last version and I double click on it and it was installed, when i start up I get the following error, I searched in internet but I could not solve the problem, any help would be appreciated

the errors are

During startup - Warning messages:

```
1: Setting LC_CTYPE failed, using "C"
2: Setting LC_COLLATE failed, using "C"
3: Setting LC_TIME failed, using "C"
4: Setting LC_MESSAGES failed, using "C"
5: Setting LC_PAPER failed, using "C"
[R.app GUI 1.50 (6126) x86_64-apple-darwin9.8.0]
```

WARNING: You're using a non-UTF8 locale, therefore only ASCII characters will work. Please read R for Mac OS X FAQ (see Help) section 9 and adjust your system preferences accordingly. [History restored from /Users/nemo/.Rapp.history]

osx r install

edited Feb 12 '15 at 15:35

asked Mar 13 '12 at 17:35
user1267127

Have you tried "read[ing] R for Mac OS X FAQ (see Help) section 9 and adjust[ing] your system preferences accordingly"? You're much more likely to get a helpful response if you specify [what you've already tried](#). – [smessing](#) Mar 13 '12 at 17:40

3 Oh, I just wrote in terminal defaults write org.R-project.R force.LANG en_US.UTF-8 and then it solved (i do not have any message or error) I have another question, how to import my data? where i should copy my data for example if they are in desktop and saved in txt, how can i import them? – user1267127 Mar 13 '12 at 17:50

1 refer these links for details cran.r-project.org/bin/macosx/... support.rstudio.org/help/discussions/questions/... – [Abhishek Gayakwad](#) Jan 7 '13 at 10:09

The links provided by [@AbhishekGayakwad](#) (thanks to him) explains the answer below. – [Unheilig](#) Apr 13 '15 at 7:16

5 Answers

1. Open Terminal
2. Write or paste in: defaults write org.R-project.R force.LANG en_US.UTF-8
3. Close Terminal
4. Start R

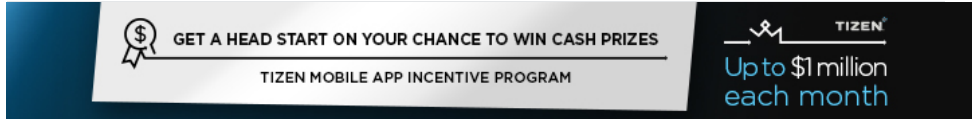
answered Jul 7 '13 at 7:24

 [nassimhddd](#)
4,196 1 13 31

3 This works for me as well. Thanks! cran.r-project.org/bin/macosx/... – [Bhoom Suktitipat](#) Sep 5 '13 at 9:54

18 What's going on actually behind this ? – [MrROY](#) Dec 3 '13 at 6:32

- 1 Thanks! @Masi yes it does! In addition to you Masi, I would highly recommend installing from the CRAN repos. cran.r-project.org/mirrors.html select a mirror that fits you and then pick packages you want to install, it should be pretty straightforward! Good luck! – [nemesis](#) Feb 11 '14 at 21:27
- 1 Stop also working in 10.10.1 Yosemite. – [Léo Léopold Hertz 준영](#) Jan 25 '15 at 20:43
- 2 In my system (OS X 10.11 El Capitan) I have environment variables `LANG` and `LC_ALL` set to `en_US.UTF-8` for my terminal (in the `~/.bash_profile` file), and command line R does not display those warning messages; but R Studio does. Found that R Studio uses the *System Preferences > Language & Region* settings. Which in my system are: *English* for the language and *Spain* for the Region. This leads to a `en_ES` locale, not supported by the system. Found that I can set an specific setting for Mac R Studio with this command: `defaults write org.rstudio.RStudio force.LANG en_US.UTF-8` – [Ramón Gil Moreno](#) Aug 26 '16 at 11:06



Setting locales in terminal resolved the issue for me. Open the terminal and

1. Check if locale settings are missing

```
> locale
LANG=
LC_COLLATE="C"
LC_CTYPE="UTF-8"
LC_MESSAGES="C"
LC_MONETARY="C"
LC_NUMERIC="C"
LC_TIME="C"
LC_ALL=
```

2. Edit `~/.profile` or `~/.bashrc`

```
export LANG=en_US.UTF-8
export LC_ALL=en_US.UTF-8
```

3. Open a new terminal window and check that the locales are properly set

```
> locale
LANG="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_COLLATE="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_CTYPE="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_MESSAGES="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_MONETARY="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_NUMERIC="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_TIME="en_US.UTF-8"
LC_ALL="en_US.UTF-8"
```

answered Oct 19 '14 at 7:56



[Jarno Keskikangas](#)

279 3 3

you made my day, that solved the issue of Rstudio too, which reported at support.rstudio.com/hc/communities/public/questions/... – [Islam El Hosary](#) Feb 22 '15 at 19:02

Way more helpful answer! – [Slim](#) Aug 11 '16 at 14:32

Just open the R(software) and copy and paste

```
system("defaults write org.R-project.R force.LANG en_US.UTF-8")
```

Hope this will work fine or use the other method

open(on mac): Utilities/Terminal copy and paste

```
defaults write org.R-project.R force.LANG en_US.UTF-8
```

and close both terminal and R and reopen R .

edited Apr 8 '14 at 18:44



[Blazemonger](#)

58.6k 16 92 127

answered Apr 8 '14 at 18:22



[user3512330](#)

219 2 2

- 1 The first one worked. Thanks! – [Shilpa](#) May 27 '14 at 17:19

Pasting in the Terminal did not work for me, this oneliner did work. It might be because of insufficient user rights. – [CousinCocaine](#) Feb 18 '16 at 10:03

First method also works for me on OSX El Capitan – [Simon](#) May 13 '16 at 16:09

Where is the Utilities? Not working in macOS Sierra 10.12.1 :(Can you check [this](#) on the same issue in OS X? – [hhh](#) Jan 27 at 11:33

01/02/2017

osx - Installing R on Mac - Warning messages: Setting LC_CTYPE failed, using "C" - Stack Overflow

I found slightly different problem running R on through mac terminal, but connecting remotely to an Ubuntu server, which prevented me from successfully installing a library.

The solution I have was finding out what "LANG" variable is used in Ubuntu terminal

```
Ubuntu > echo $LANG
en_US.UTF-8
```

I got "en_US.UTF-8" reply from Ubuntu.

In R session, however, I got "UTF-8" as the default value and it complained that LC_TYPEC
Setting LC_CTYPE failed, using "C"

```
R> Sys.getenv("LANG")
"UTF-8"
```

So, I tried to change this variable in R. It worked.

```
R> Sys.setenv(LANG="en_US.UTF-8")
```

answered Aug 20 '14 at 10:56



Bhoom Suktitipat
831 1 7 5

This worked for me,

Type

```
system("defaults write org.R-project.R force.LANG en_US.UTF-8")
```

and press Enter

Restart R

edited Sep 20 '16 at 19:21



tinlyx
7,041 15 37 76

answered Sep 20 '16 at 18:59



newbieR
1