

In R , how to get count of a value?

In R there are a few super common ways to **count values**, depending on what you mean. Here are the most useful patterns 

1 Count how many times each value appears

r

 Copy code

```
x <- c("a", "b", "a", "c", "b", "a")  
  
table(x)
```

Output

r

 Copy code

```
a b c  
3 2 1
```

2 Count a specific value

r

 Copy code

```
sum(x == "a")
```

→ Counts how many "a" values are in x

3 Count values using dplyr (very common in data work)

r

 Copy code

```
library(dplyr)

df %>%
  count(column_name)
```

Example:

r

 Copy code

```
df <- data.frame(type = c("A", "B", "A", "C", "A"))

df %>% count(type)
```

4 Count values with group_by

r

 Copy code

```
df %>%
  group_by(type) %>%
  summarise(n = n())
```

5 Count non-NA values

r

 Copy code

```
sum(!is.na(x))
```

6 Count NA values

r

 Copy code

```
sum(is.na(x))
```

7 Quick base-R alternative

r

 Copy code

```
length(which(x == "a"))
```

If you want, tell me:

- vector or data frame?
- count **one value or all values?**
- base R or `dplyr` ?

I'll tailor it exactly to your case 

      ...

How to understand this line "summarise(n = n())" , I dont see, it declare a var "n" ?

Great question — this line *looks* mysterious at first, but once you see the pattern it clicks

fast 🤘

r

Copy code

```
summarise(n = n())
```

Let's break it down piece by piece.

1 What summarise() does

summarise() creates a new data frame where:

- each row represents a group (from `group_by()`), and
- each column is a summary you define.

So inside `summarise()` , you are defining new columns.

2 Is n a variable?

Yes — but not beforehand.

r

Copy code

```
n = n()
```

means:

"Create a new column called `n` , whose value is the result of `n()` "

So:

- **left** `n` → column name (you are declaring it here)
- **right** `n()` → a function

Think of it like:

r

Copy code

```
new_column_name = calculation()
```

3 What is n() ?

n() is a **dplyr helper function** that means:

"How many rows are in the current group?"

Example:

r

 Copy code

```
df <- data.frame(  
  type = c("A", "A", "B", "C", "A")  
)  
  
df %>%  
  group_by(type) %>%  
  summarise(n = n())
```

How dplyr sees it:

- Group "A" → 3 rows → n() = 3
- Group "B" → 1 row → n() = 1
- Group "C" → 1 row → n() = 1

Output

r

 Copy code

```
# A tibble: 3 × 2  
  type     n  
  <chr> <int>  
1 A         3  
2 B         1  
3 C         1
```

4 Why use the same name twice?

This is a **very common R pattern**:

r

 Copy code

```
column_name = function()
```

Other examples:

r

 Copy code

```
summarise(mean_age = mean(age))  
summarise(total = sum(sales))  
summarise(max_score = max(score))
```

So `n = n()` just happens to reuse the same word — but they mean **different things**:

- first `n` → column name
 - second `n()` → counting function
-

5 Shortcut: count()

Because this pattern is so common, dplyr gives you:

r

 Copy code

```
df %>% count(type)
```

Which is exactly the same as:

r

 Copy code

```
df %>%  
  group_by(type) %>%  
  summarise(n = n())
```

Mental model (remember this)

Inside `summarise()` you are *creating columns*, not referencing old variables.

If you want, I can also explain:

- how `summarise()` differs from `mutate()`

- why `n()` only works inside dplyr verbs
- or how this works under the hood (tidy evaluation)

Just say the word 

