

# R bootcamp - part 1: installing software

Hannah Meyer

September 2025

## Contents

1	Welcome!	1
2	Install R and R studio desktop	1
3	Install libraries	2
4	Test your installation	2

## 1 Welcome!

Welcome to the R course: Introduction to Data Visualization in R! The following document contains a checklist of things to do **before** the course starts. They are a requirement to participate in the course - if you run into any issues with the installation, let us know!

## 2 Install R and R studio desktop

If you use a Mac and use **brew** for managing your software, please do:

```
brew install r  
brew install --cask rstudio
```

If you are on a different operating system or you do not use **brew**, please go to this website to download and install R: <https://cran.rstudio.com/>. Choose the download link that matches your operating system (mac, windows, linux) and follow the instructions.

Then, go to this website to download and install R studio - desktop version: <https://rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/>. Choose the download link that matches your operating system (mac, windows, linux) and follow the instructions.

Once you installed both R and R studio desktop (in that order!), open R studio.

In the default set up, you will see four panels (see figure below):

- \* upper left: a text editor (where I am currently writing this text)
- \* lower left: your R terminal
- \* upper right: panel showing you an empty environment
- \* lower right: panel showing you files, plots, etc.



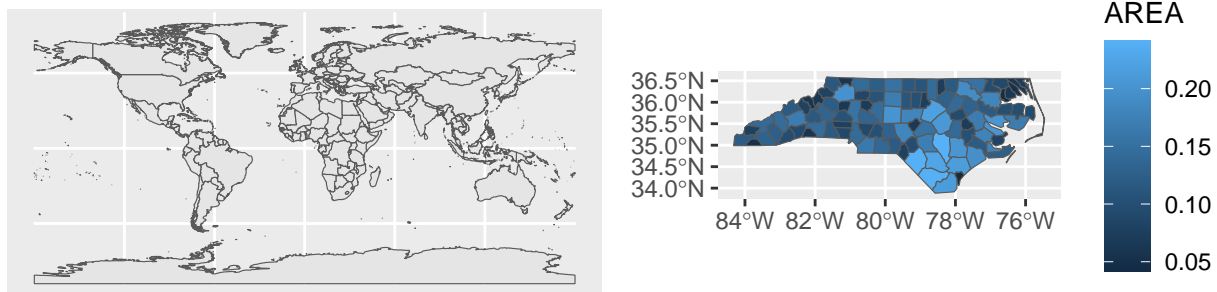
```
library("tidyverse")
library("forcats")
library("cowplot")
library("sf")
library("rnaturalearth")
library("RColorBrewer")

world <- ne_countries(scale = "medium", returnclass = "sf")
left <- ggplot() + geom_sf(data = world)

nc <- sf::st_read(system.file("shape/nc.shp", package = "sf"), quiet = TRUE)
right <- ggplot(nc) + geom_sf(aes(fill = AREA))
```

Please copy these two lines now. If everything worked out, you should see the following output in your plots window (lower right) and terminal (lower left)

```
plot_grid(left, right)
```



```
head(RColorBrewer::brewer.pal.info)
```

```
##      maxcolors category colorblind
## BrBG         11      div      TRUE
## PiYG         11      div      TRUE
## PRGn         11      div      TRUE
## PuOr         11      div      TRUE
## RdBu         11      div      TRUE
## RdGy         11      div     FALSE
```

Please make sure that you see the same output as above. If you run into problems, please reach out and we can try and help set it up before the class. We expect everyone to come with all requirements installed and will not help with the setup during class, so please be prepared and ask in advance!