

Optional Hands-On Activity: Get started in RStudio Desktop

TOTAL POINTS 1

1.



Activity overview

In earlier activities, you explored programming with R and may have downloaded R to your computer. You also set up cloud access to RStudio, an integrated development environment for programming in R. In this activity, you will download RStudio Desktop—the offline version of RStudio—to your computer.

By the end of this activity, you will be able to use RStudio Desktop on your computer. This will give you more flexibility while programming with R, as you will be able to access everything RStudio has to offer even if you are not connected to the internet.

Download RStudio Desktop

- **Note:** This is an optional activity. RStudio Cloud is the primary tool we will use for this course, but you can also use RStudio Desktop if you have R installed. Please keep in mind that Chrome OS does not support the installation of R. If you are completing this course on a Chromebook, we suggest that you skip this activity or refer to the Linux workaround linked in this activity.

RStudio allows you to create and manage projects using R more efficiently. You can find more information about RStudio Desktop on the [RStudio website](#). It is available to download with the open source edition, so it is free to use under a public license. The free trial of RStudio Pro, which has all of the features of the open-source edition and a commercial license, is also on this website.




1. Determine which operating system (OS) you have on your computer. Some common OS's include MacOS (Apple), Windows OS (Microsoft), and Chrome OS (Google).
2. If you haven't already, install R onto your computer. You can find the links to download R for Mac, Windows, and Linux on the [CRAN website](#). For more information, refer to a previous activity, [Downloading and Installing R](#).
3. Once you have installed R, go to the [RStudio Desktop download page](#).

All Installers

Linux users may need to import RStudio's public code-signing key prior to installation, depending on the operating system's security policy.

RStudio requires a 64-bit operating system. If you are on a 32 bit system, you can use an [older version of RStudio](#).

OS	Download	Size	SHA-256
Windows 10/8/7	RStudio-1.4.1103.exe	156.96 MB	c3384189
macOS 10.13+	RStudio-1.4.1103.dmg	152.77 MB	20148bd6
Ubuntu 16	rstudio-1.4.1103-amd64.deb	119.26 MB	f9857e27
Ubuntu 18/Debian 10	rstudio-1.4.1103-amd64.deb	120.30 MB	76864349
Fedora 19/Red Hat 7	rstudio-1.4.1103-x86_64.rpm	138.02 MB	8fcb2d29

Fedora 28/Red Hat 8	 rstudio-1.4.1103-x86_64.rpm	138.01 MB	e2bf11e9
Debian 9	 rstudio-1.4.1103-amd64.deb	120.45 MB	4a4d159c
OpenSUSE 15	 rstudio-1.4.1103-x86_64.rpm	122.02 MB	fdc33f7a

4. Download the appropriate RStudio Desktop installer for your operating system.

5. Once you have downloaded the installer, open it and install **RStudio**.

6. After installation, open the application for the first time. You should find the RStudio console you are already familiar with--but now you can access it locally.

Install and load packages

You can install and load packages in your RStudio Desktop console, just like you did for RStudio Cloud. Now, you will install and load the lubridate package in the tidyverse.

As a refresher, the tidyverse is a collection of packages in R with a common design philosophy for data manipulation, exploration, and visualization. For a lot of data analysts, the tidyverse is an essential tool.

1. To install the core tidyverse packages, type **install.packages("tidyverse")** into the RStudio console pane and click **Run**.

2. Load the tidyverse library with the **library()** function. Type `library(tidyverse)` into the console pane and click **Run**.

You only need to install a package once, but you need to reload it every time you start a new session.

3. Load the lubridate package. Type `library(lubridate)` into the console pane and click **Run**.

After you have loaded this package into your RStudio Desktop console, exit the program. Now, you will be able to use RStudio with tidyverse whether you are connected to the internet or not.