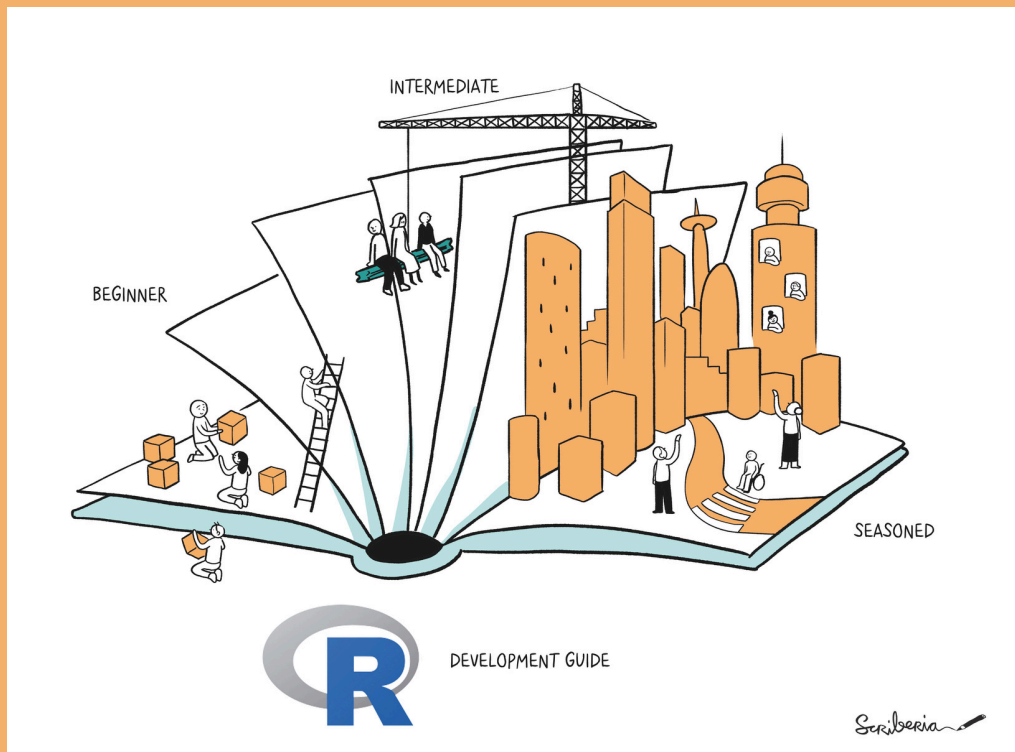


R Development Guide



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R Contribution Working Group

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Acknowledgement

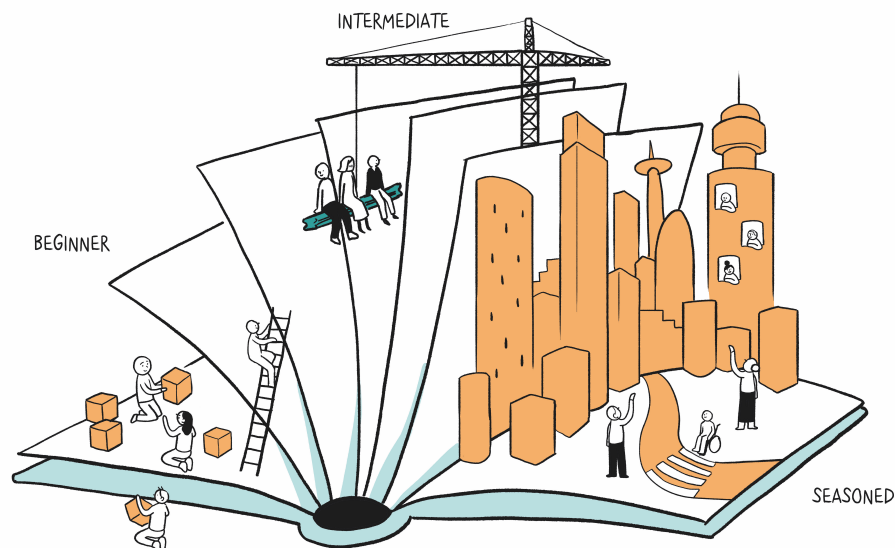


Figure 1: R Development Guide. This illustration is created by Scriberia with The Turing Way community, used under a CC-BY 4.0 licence. DOI:= <https://zenodo.org/records/13882307>

This guide draws on documentation and articles written by the R Core Team. The first version of the guide was heavily influenced by the [Python Developer's Guide](#).

Initial chapters of the guide were developed by Saranjeet Kaur Bhogal, in a project funded by the R Foundation, mentored by Heather Turner and Michael Lawrence. This initial version was upgraded in a [Google Season of Docs 2022](#) project with Saranjeet Kaur Bhogal and Lluís Revilla Sancho working as technical writers managed by Nicolas Bennett and overseen by a [Steering Committee](#) including representatives from R Core and the wider R community.

This guide has benefited and continues to benefit from varied contributions by several [contributors](#).



Figure 2: License: CC BY 4.0

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1 Introduction

This guide is a comprehensive resource for contributing to base R¹ – for both new and experienced contributors. It is maintained by the [R Contribution Working Group](#). We welcome your contributions to base R!

1.1 Overview of different ways of contributing to the base R Project

Contributions to base R are possible in a number of different ways. Some of them are listed below:

1. Contributing to bug fixing: Refer to Issue Tracking and Reviewing Bugs.
2. Contributing to translations: Refer to Translations.
3. Testing R before release: Refer to Testing Pre-release R Versions.
4. Contributing to documentation, including this guide: Refer to Documenting R and Contributing to this guide.

1.2 Quick start to the guide

The guide is intended as a comprehensive resource for contributing to base R. The following chapter outline provides an overview with links to sections for getting started with contributing.

1. The Getting Started covers the instructions on how to install R on the major operating systems (Windows, Linux and macOS), as well as the tools required to build R and R packages from source.
2. The Issue Tracking and the Reviewing Bugs chapters discuss how to find bugs in R and how to review bug reports that are submitted to Bugzilla.
3. The Finding the Source chapter provides an overview of the R codebase and helps with finding source code of base functions written in R and/or C.

¹The [set of packages](#) in the base R distribution that are maintained by the R Core Team.