R Commands Quick Reference

Essential R commands for daily data science work

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1 Data Import/Export

Task	Command	Example
Read CSV	read.csv()	read.csv("data.csv")
Read Excel	readxl::read_excel()	<pre>read_excel("data.xlsx")</pre>
Write CSV	write.csv()	<pre>write.csv(df, "output.csv")</pre>
Save RDS	<pre>saveRDS()</pre>	<pre>saveRDS(data, "data.rds")</pre>
Load RDS	readRDS()	readRDS("data.rds")

2 Data Manipulation (dplyr)

Task	Command	Example
Filter rows	filter()	filter(df, age > 18)
Select columns	select()	<pre>select(df, name, age)</pre>
Create columns	<pre>mutate()</pre>	<pre>mutate(df, age_months = age * 12)</pre>
Group data	<pre>group_by()</pre>	<pre>group_by(df, category)</pre>
Summarize	<pre>summarise()</pre>	<pre>summarise(df, mean_age = mean(age))</pre>
Sort	arrange()	<pre>arrange(df, desc(age))</pre>

3 Data Visualization (ggplot2)

Task	Command	Example
Scatter plot	<pre>geom_point()</pre>	<pre>ggplot(df, aes(x, y)) + geom_point()</pre>
Line plot	<pre>geom_line()</pre>	<pre>ggplot(df, aes(x, y)) + geom_line()</pre>
Bar plot	<pre>geom_bar()</pre>	<pre>ggplot(df, aes(x)) + geom_bar()</pre>
Histogram	<pre>geom_histogram()</pre>	<pre>ggplot(df, aes(x)) + geom_histogram()</pre>
Box plot	<pre>geom_boxplot()</pre>	<pre>ggplot(df, aes(x, y)) + geom_boxplot()</pre>

4 Statistical Functions

Task	Command	Example
Mean	mean()	mean(x, na.rm = TRUE)
Median	median()	median(x, na.rm = TRUE)
Standard deviation	sd()	sd(x, na.rm = TRUE)
Correlation	cor()	<pre>cor(x, y, use = "complete.obs")</pre>
Linear model	lm()	$lm(y \sim x, data = df)$
ANOVA	aov()	aov(y ~ group, data = df)

5 String Operations

Task	Command	Example	
Concatenate	paste()	paste("Hello",	"World")

Task	Command	Example
Split string Find pattern Replace pattern String length	<pre>strsplit() grep() gsub() nchar()</pre>	<pre>strsplit("a,b,c", ",") grep("pattern", x) gsub("old", "new", x) nchar("hello")</pre>

6 Package Management

Task	Command	Example
Install package	<pre>install.packages()</pre>	<pre>install.packages("dplyr")</pre>
Load package	library()	library(dplyr)
Update packages	update.packages()	update.packages()
List packages	<pre>installed.packages()</pre>	<pre>installed.packages()</pre>

7 Workspace Management

Task	Command	Example
List objects	ls()	ls()
Remove objects	rm()	rm(x, y)
Clear workspace	rm(list = ls())	rm(list = ls())
Working directory	<pre>getwd()</pre>	getwd()
Set directory	setwd()	<pre>setwd("/path/to/dir")</pre>

8 Data Types & Structure

Task	Command	Example
Data type	class()	class(x)
Structure	str()	str(df)
Dimensions	<pre>dim()</pre>	<pre>dim(df)</pre>
Column names	names()	names(df)
Summary	<pre>summary()</pre>	<pre>summary(df)</pre>
First rows	head()	head(df, 10)
Last rows	tail()	tail(df, 10)

9 Missing Values

Task	Command	Example
Check for NA	is.na()	is.na(x)
Remove NA	<pre>na.omit()</pre>	na.omit(df)
Complete cases	<pre>complete.cases()</pre>	<pre>complete.cases(df)</pre>

10 Quick Tips

- $\bullet~{\rm Use}~{\tt ?function_name}~{\rm to}~{\rm get}~{\rm help}$
- $\bullet~$ Use Tab for auto-completion in RS tudio
- Use Ctrl+Shift+C to comment/uncomment code