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Saving images without ggsave()

In most cases, **ggsave()** is the simplest way to save your plot. But there are situations when it might be best to save your plot by writing it directly to a graphics device. This reading will cover some of the different ways you can save images and plots without **ggsave()**, and includes additional resources to check out if you want to learn more.



A graphics device allows a plot to appear on your computer. Examples include:

- A window on your computer (screen device)
- A PDF, PNG, or JPEG file (file device)
- An SVG, or scalable vector graphics file (file device)

When you make a plot in R, it has to be “sent” to a specific graphics device. To save images without using **ggsave()**, you can open an R graphics device like **png()** or **pdf()**; these will allow you to save your plot as a **png** or **pdf** file. You can also choose to print the plot and then close the device using