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## How to change legend title in ggplot (density)



I have the following plot like below. It was created with this command:

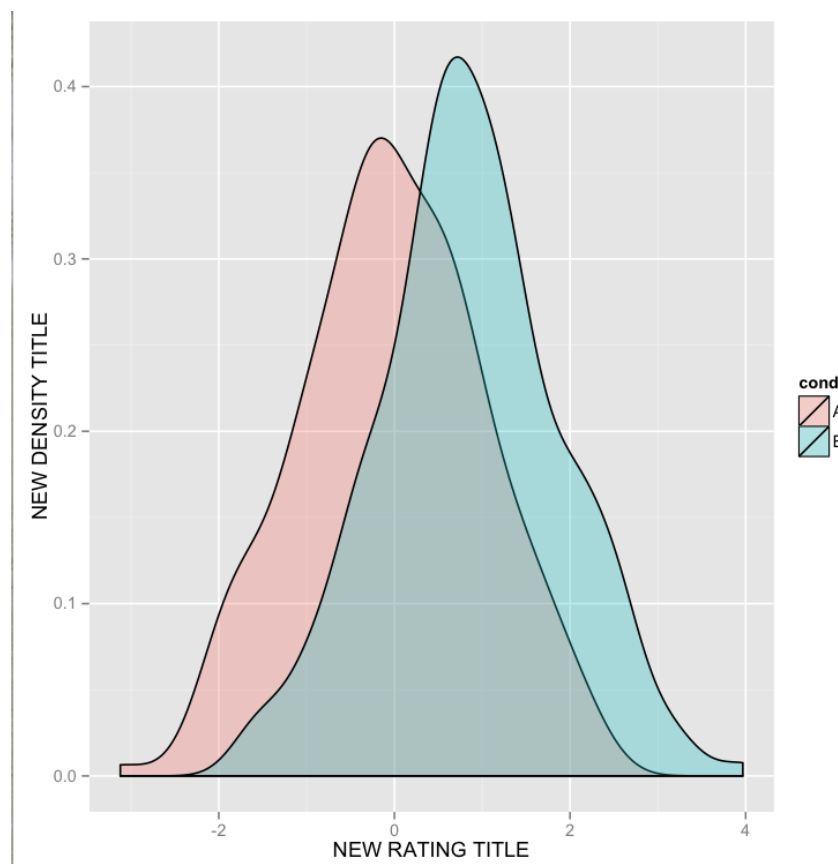
```
>library(ggplot2)
>df <- data.frame(cond = factor( rep(c("A","B"), each=200) ), rating =
c(rnorm(200),rnorm(200, mean=.8)))
>ggplot(df, aes(x=rating, fill=cond)) + geom_density(alpha=.3)+xlab("NEW RATING
TITLE")+ylab("NEW DENSITY TITLE")
```

Now next thing I want to do is to modify the *legend title* from **cond** into **NEW LEGEND TITLE**.

So what I did is to just add the following line add the end of the above code:

```
+labs(colour="NEW LEGEND TITLE")
```

But it doesn't work. What's the right way to do it?



r plot ggplot2

edited Jan 31 '13 at 9:47

asked Jan 31 '13 at 9:31

neversaint  
8,548 41 136 223

3 `labs(fill="xyz")` should do – baptiste Aug 23 '13 at 16:54

## 3 Answers

This should work:

```
p <- ggplot(df, aes(x=rating, fill=cond)) +
  geom_density(alpha=.3) +
  xlab("NEW RATING TITLE") +
  ylab("NEW DENSITY TITLE")
p <- p + guides(fill=guide_legend(title="New Legend Title"))
```

(or alternatively)

```
p + scale_fill_discrete(name = "New Legend Title")
```

answered Jan 31 '13 at 9:35

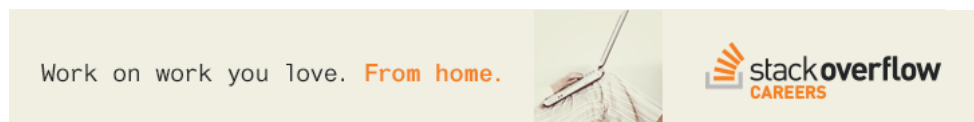


Arun

61.9k 8 107 184

2 Another alternative is `p$labels$fill <- "New Legend Title"` – Alex Holcombe Aug 31 '15 at 5:51

what is the difference between `guides` and `scale_fill_discrete` – Medhat Helmy Dec 29 '15 at 13:02

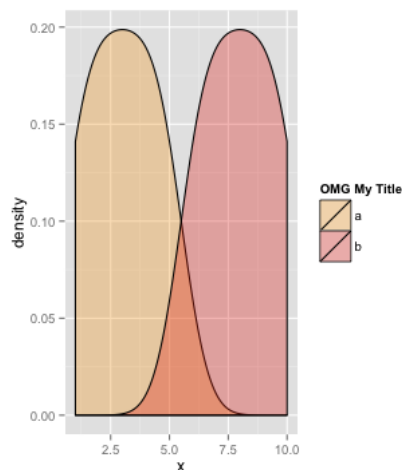


Since you have two densities I imagine you may be wanting to set your own colours with

`scale_fill_manual`.

If so you can do:

```
df <- data.frame(x=1:10, group=c(rep("a",5), rep("b",5)))
legend_title <- "OMG My Title"
ggplot(df, aes(x=x, fill=group)) + geom_density(alpha=.3) +
  scale_fill_manual(legend_title, values=c("orange", "red"))
```



answered Jan 31 '13 at 9:39



user1317221\_G

8,315 17 47

There's another very simple answer which will probably work for any graph. Just add a call to `guide_legend()` into your graph.

```
ggplot(...) + ... + guide_legend(title="my awesome title")
```

As shown in the very nice [ggplot docs](#).

answered Aug 23 '13 at 16:49



Yourpalal

160 7

4 doesn't work when there is more than one legend. – Roy Sep 1 '13 at 15:29

14 This did not work for me, but `qplot(...) + guides(color=guide_legend(title="sale year"))` worked – Amaud Amzallag Feb 24 '14 at 2:55

