

Functions in R: Takeaways

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Syntax

- The syntax of a function

```
function_name <- function(input) {
```

```
# Input manipulation goes here
```

```
# Create a variable to output
```

```
return(output)
```

```
}
```

Concepts

- Functions are reusable chunks of code that we can use to pack up complicated code. Functions take in an input, perform the calculation and return an output, without the user necessarily needing to know how the calculation was done.
- Positional arguments take their name from where they appear in the parentheses when we make functions. If your arguments are positional, you have to respect where you place your inputs.
- Keyword arguments can be used to specify a default value for your arguments in your function. You can also use them to refer to the arguments directly, without having to worry about the order.
- Variable arguments are handled by the three-dots construct, `...`. You can access these arguments by assigning it to a list, and any extra arguments that you provide to a function will be stored in here.
- Variable arguments are immensely useful in cases where you nest a lot of functions inside a single one and you need to pass specific arguments to each of the individual functions.

Further Reading

- [The Map Variants](#)

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