

# Installation Guide for RStudio – Labour Economics

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## Installation

In our empirical assignments, we use **RStudio**, the environment for **R**.<sup>1</sup> This is a quick and simple guide to installing R and RStudio.

At <https://cran.rstudio.com> you can find your fitting version of R. As soon as you have installed R, you can download RStudio via <https://posit.co/download/rstudio-desktop/#%23download>. There you find the bestfitting version for your setup or other versions below.

## Start in RStudio

As soon as you have installed R and RStudio, open RStudio. If your interface looks almost identical to the one on the next page, everything runs good.

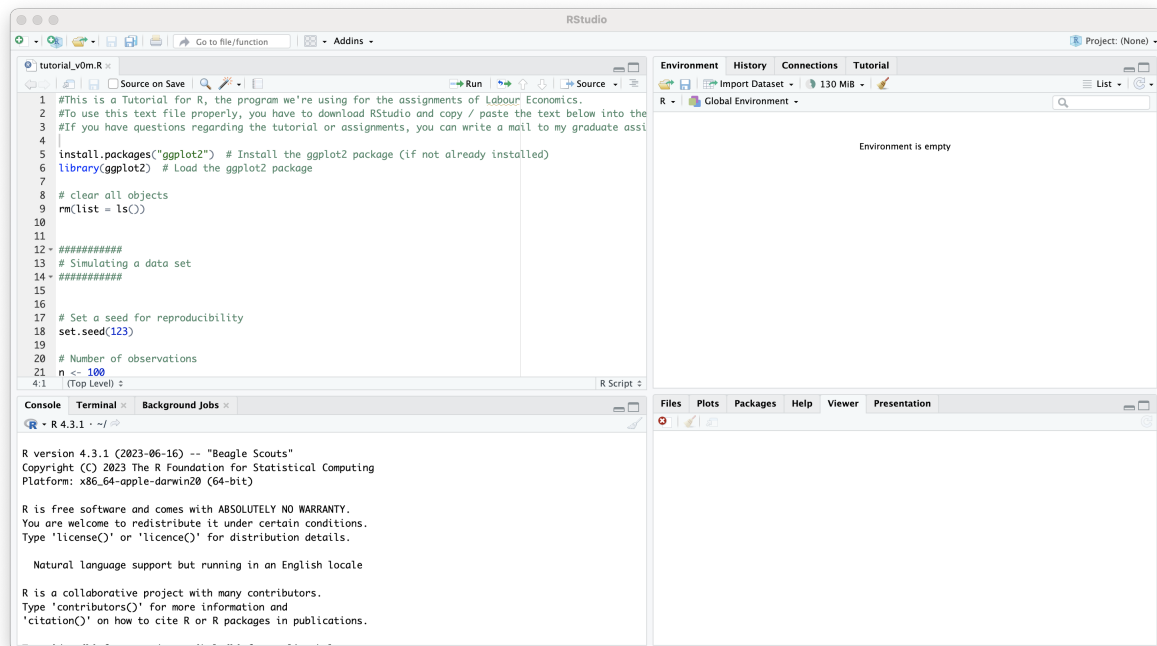
Your interface is split into four pieces, with the each one holding multiple tools. On your top-left, you see your open file, here the tutorial file for Labour Economics. You can alter code or run different passages in your Code. Your top-right keeps track of your data in dataframes and various other objects. On your bottom-left, you can see the executed code and the regressions you have run. The bottom-right holds plotted images of specific code lines.

Don't forget to install the packages above your code, as the standard R configuration has only a few of them installed.

To get started, you can download the tutorial for R from moodle (assignments -> data and code) and open it via RStudio. Try to run it and feel free to explore the first steps with the tutorial.

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<sup>1</sup> You are free to use other software if you have a strong preference.



## Why R and RStudio?

Prof. Böhm offers regular theoretical and empirical exercises during the winter term. For the empirical exercises we recommend using R. Firstly, R is very flexible, and its package repository is constantly updated by the open-source community and computer scientists. R is used by a broad audience in science and scientific studies, so having a basic understanding of how it works could significantly improve your scientific career. R is relatively easy to learn. We recommend the environment "RStudio".

There are many online help forums for R, that you can google. AI-assisted chatbots like ChatGPT can also help with learning to code or suggesting specific code. However, it is your responsibility to implement it appropriately for the task, understand what is happening, and correctly interpret the results!

Finally, R (as well as the recommended environment "RStudio") is free, so we don't have to worry about licenses. What you need is a personal computer on which you can work on your exercises (no fancy specifications required!). Alternatively, you are welcome to use other software you are already familiar with, such as Python or Stata.