

How to Install an R Package using the tar.gz File

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1 The Challenge

You'd like to install an R package using the tar.gz file. Maybe you're trying to install an old version, doing some testing, or you'd rather manually install than use a CRAN mirror.

2 A Solution

2.1 On a Mac

2.1.1 From Within R

Enter at the R prompt

```
> install.packages(pkgname.tar.gz, repos = NULL, type = 'source')
```

2.1.2 Using Terminal

1. Close R
2. Download the tar.gz onto the Desktop
3. Open the Terminal application
4. Enter "R CMD INSTALL Desktop/[pkg.tar.gz]" without the quotation marks, where [pkg.tar.gz] is the full filename of the tar.gz (such as "blockTools_0.4-1.tar.gz")
5. Open R
6. Enter at the R prompt

```
> library(blockTools)
```

Then, you can check that you have installed the desired version using

```
> sessionInfo()
```

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2.2 On Windows

See the instructions <https://stat.ethz.ch/pipermail/r-help/2008-August/169599.html>.
Hope this helps!