

# Can someone explain why I cannot use `+.gg()` with only one argument in R?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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The `+.gg()` function in R is designed to combine multiple ggplot objects together. It requires at least two arguments to work properly. Attempting to use the function with only one argument will result in an error, as it is not able to perform the intended function. This limitation is due to the specific design and purpose of the `+.gg()` function.

## Fix in R: Cannot use `+.gg()` with a single argument

One common error message you may encounter when using in R is:

**Error: Cannot use `+.gg()` with a single argument. Did you accidentally put + on a new line?**

This error occurs when you attempt to create a plot using the ggplot2 data visualization package in R, but accidentally place the plus (+) sign at the beginning of a new line instead of the end of the current line.

The following example shows how to fix this error in practice.

How to Reproduce the Error

Suppose we attempt to create a scatter plot in ggplot2 using variables from the built-in dataset in R:

```
library(ggplot2)
```

```
#attempt to create scatter plot  
ggplot(mtcars, aes(mpg, wt))  
+ geom_point()
```

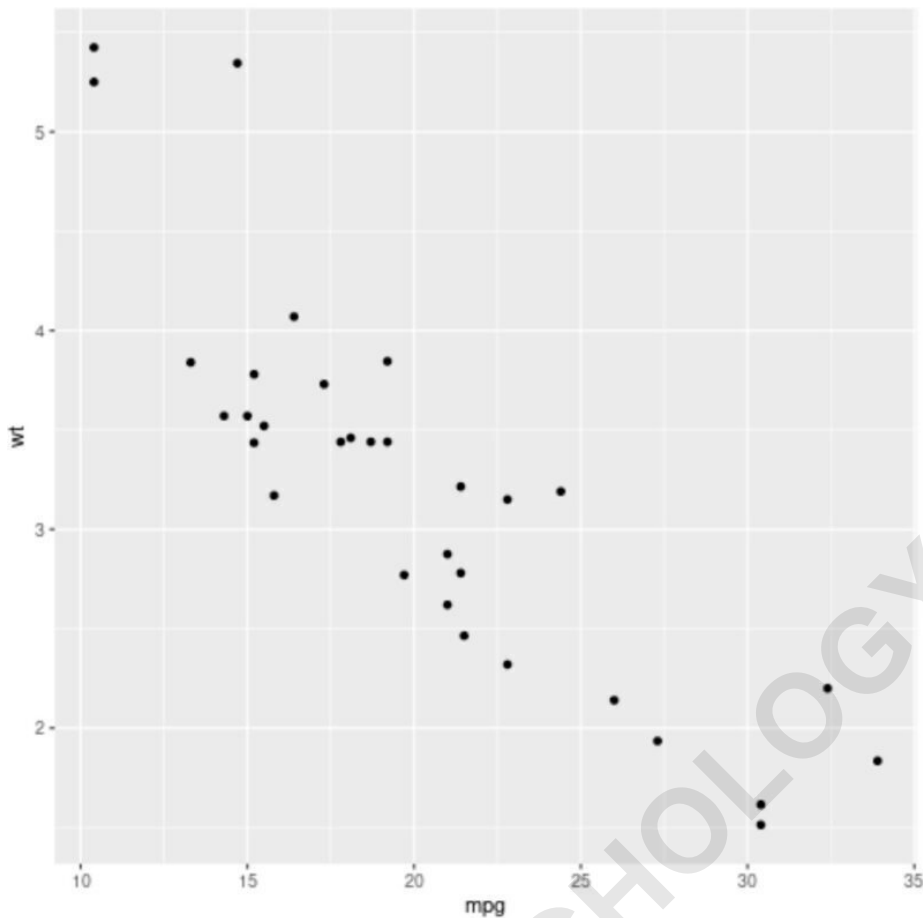
**Error: Cannot use `+.gg()` with a single argument. Did you accidentally put + on a new line?**

**We receive an error because we placed the plus (+) sign at the beginning of a new line.**

**How to Fix the Error**

**To fix this error, we simply need to make sure we place the plus (+) sign at the end of the first line:**

```
library(ggplot2)  
  
#create scatter plot  
ggplot(mtcars, aes(mpg, wt)) +  
geom_point()
```



**Notice that we're able to successfully create a scatter plot without any errors because we moved the plus (+) sign to the end of the first line.**

#### Additional Resources

**The following tutorials explain how to troubleshoot other common errors in R:**

**[How to Fix in R: longer object length is not a multiple of shorter object length](#)**