

# How can I add a new column to a matrix in R?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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To add a new column to a matrix in R, you can use the "cbind()" function. This function combines the existing matrix with the new column, creating a new matrix with the added column. The new column must have the same number of rows as the existing matrix. The syntax for using "cbind()" is "cbind(matrix, new\_column)". This function is useful for adding additional variables or data to an existing matrix in R.

## Add New Column to Matrix in R (With Examples)

You can use the following methods to add a new column to a matrix in R:

### Method 1: Add New Column to End of Matrix

```
my_matrix <- cbind(my_matrix, c(2, 7, 7, 8))
```

### Method 2: Add New Column to Beginning of Matrix

```
my_matrix <- cbind(c(2, 7, 7, 8), my_matrix)
```

Note that both methods use the function in R to column-bind a new column to the matrix.

The following examples show how to use each method in practice.

### Example 1: Add New Column to End of Matrix

The following code shows how to use the cbind()

function to add a new column to the last position of a matrix that contains the values 2, 7, 7, and 8:

```
#create matrix
```

```
my_matrix <- matrix(c(14, 0, 12, 5, 7, 4, 1, 3, 9, 5, 5, 8),  
nrow=4)
```

```
#view matrix
```

```
my_matrix
```

```
14 7 9
```

```
0 4 5
```

```
12 1 5
```

```
5 3 8
```

```
#add new column to end of matrix
```

```
my_matrix <- cbind(my_matrix, c(2, 7, 7, 8))
```

```
#view updated matrix
```

```
my_matrix
```

```
14 7 9 2
```

```
0 4 5 7
```

```
12 1 5 7
```

```
5 3 8 8
```

**Notice that one new column has been added to the end of the matrix.**

### **Example 2: Add New Column to Beginning of Matrix**

**The following code shows how to use the `cbind()` function to add a new column to the first position of a matrix that contains the values 2, 7, 7, and 8:**

```
#create matrix
```

```
my_matrix <- matrix(c(14, 0, 12, 5, 7, 4, 1, 3, 9, 5, 5, 8),  
nrow=4)
```

```
#view matrix
```

```
my_matrix
```

```
14 7 9
```

```
0 4 5
```

```
12 1 5
```

```
5 3 8
```

```
#add new column to beginning of matrix
```

```
my_matrix <- cbind(c(2, 7, 7, 8), my_matrix)
```

```
#view updated matrix
```

```
my_matrix
```

**2 14 7 9**

**7 0 4 5**

**7 12 1 5**

**8 5 3 8**

**Notice that one new column has been added to the beginning of the matrix.**

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