

How can I fix the error “Cannot add ggproto objects together” when working in R?

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The error "Cannot add ggproto objects together" in R typically occurs when trying to combine two ggproto objects, which are special type of objects used in the ggplot2 package. To fix this error, it is important to make sure that both ggproto objects have the same class and structure. This can be achieved by using the same package version or by explicitly converting one of the objects to match the other. Additionally, checking for any conflicting or incompatible packages and resolving them can also help in resolving this error. Lastly, updating both the ggplot2 package and R version can also help in fixing this error.

Fix in R: Cannot add ggproto objects together

One error you may encounter in R is:

Error: Cannot add ggproto objects together.

Did you forget to add this object to a ggplot object?

This error typically occurs when you attempt to create a visualization using the package but forget to add a plus (+) sign somewhere in the syntax.

This tutorial shares exactly how to fix this error.

How to Reproduce the Error

Suppose we have the following data frame in R that shows the number of total sales and customers that a store receives during 10 different days:

```
#create data frame
```

```
df <- data.frame(day = c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10),
```

```
sales = c(8, 8, 7, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 18),  
customers = c(4, 6, 6, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13))
```

```
#view data frame
```

```
df
```

```
day sales customers
```

```
1 1 8 4
```

```
2 2 8 6
```

```
3 3 7 6
```

```
4 4 6 4
```

```
5 5 7 6
```

```
6 6 8 7
```

```
7 7 9 8
```

```
8 8 12 9
```

```
9 9 14 12
```

```
10 10 18 13
```

Now suppose we attempt to create a line chart to visualize the sales and customers during each of the 10 days:

```
library(ggplot2)
```

```
#attempt to create plot with two lines
```

```
ggplot(df, aes(x = day))  
geom_line(aes(y = sales, color = 'sales')) +  
geom_line(aes(y = customers, color = 'customers'))
```

Error: Cannot add ggproto objects together.

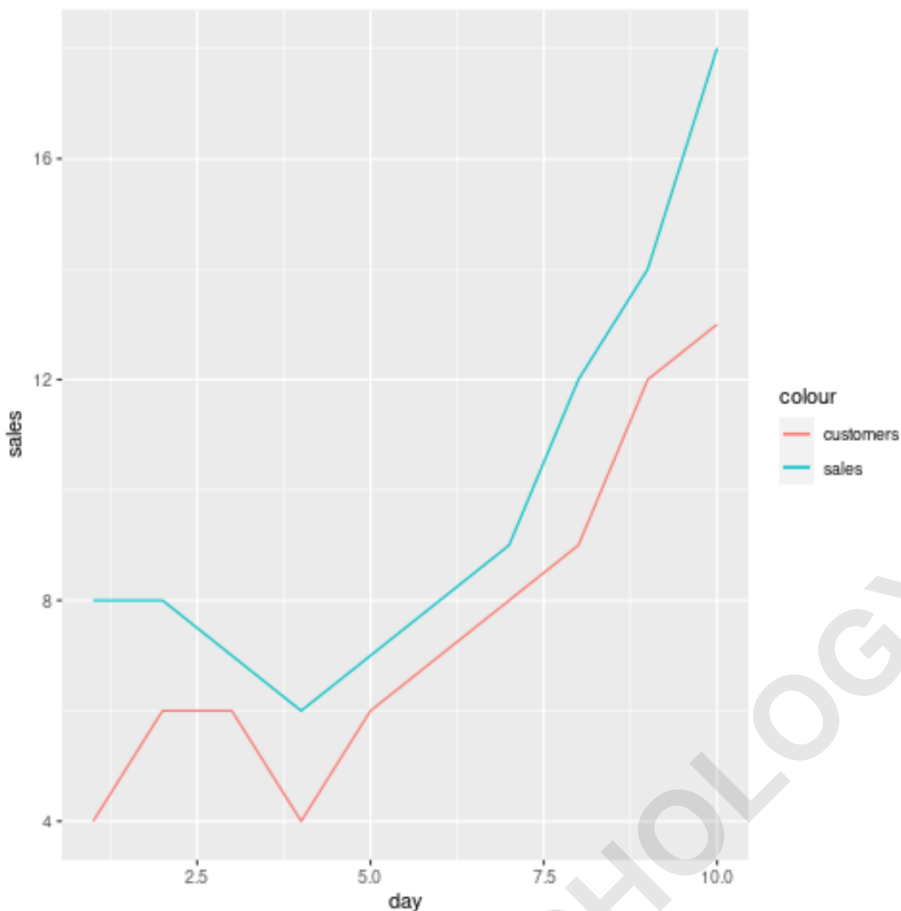
Did you forget to add this object to a ggplot object?

We receive an error that tell us we cannot add ggproto objects together.

How to Fix the Error

The way to fix this error is to simply add a plus sign (+) at the end of the first line, which we forgot to do the first time:

```
library(ggplot2)  
  
#create plot with two lines  
ggplot(df, aes(x = day)) +  
geom_line(aes(y = sales, color = 'sales')) +  
geom_line(aes(y = customers, color = 'customers'))
```



The result is a plot with two lines that shows the total customers and sales during this 10-day period.

Notice that we don't receive an error this time because we used a plus sign (+) at the end of the first line.

Additional Resources

How to Fix in R: longer object length is not a multiple of shorter object length