

# How can I fix the error “cannot open the connection” in the file(file, “rt”) command?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I fix the error “cannot open the connection” in the file(file, “rt”) command?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=141537>

The error "cannot open the connection" in the file(file, "rt") command indicates that there is an issue with accessing the specified file. This could be due to various reasons such as incorrect file path, file not being present, or insufficient permissions. To fix this error, you can try checking the file path and making sure it is correct, ensuring that the file exists, and adjusting the file permissions if needed. Additionally, restarting the program or computer may also resolve the issue.

## **Fix: error in file(file, "rt") : cannot open the connection**

**One common error you may encounter in R is:**

**Error in file(file, "rt") : cannot open the connection**

**In addition: Warning message:**

**In file(file, "rt") :**

**cannot open file 'data.csv': No such file or directory**

**This error occurs when you attempt to , but the file name or directory you're attempting to access does not exist.**

**This tutorial shares exactly how to fix this error.**

**How to Reproduce the Error**

**Suppose I have a CSV file called data.csv saved in the following location:**

**C:\Users\Bob\Desktop\data.csv**

**And suppose the CSV file contains the following data:**

**team, points, assists**

**'A', 78, 12**

**'B', 85, 20**

**'C', 93, 23**

**'D', 90, 8**

**'E', 91, 14**

**Suppose I use the following syntax to read in this CSV file into R:**

**#attempt to read in CSV file**

**df <- read.csv('data.csv')**

**Error in file(file, "rt") : cannot open the connection**

**In addition: Warning message:**

**In file(file, "rt") :**

**cannot open file 'data2.csv': No such file or directory**

**I receive an error because this file doesn't exist in the current working directory.**

**How to Fix the Error**

**I can use the `getwd()` function to actually find the**

**working directory I'm in:**

**#display current directory**

**getwd()**

**"C:/Users/Bob/Documents"**

**Since my CSV file is located on my desktop, I need to change the working directory using setwd() and then use read.csv() to read in the file:**

**#set current directory**

**setwd('C:UsersBobDesktop')**

**#read in CSV file**

**df <- read.csv('data.csv', header=TRUE,  
stringsAsFactors=FALSE)**

**#view data**

**df**

**team points assists**

**1 A 78 12**

**2 B 85 20**

**3 C 93 23**

**4 D 90 8**

## 5 E 91 14

Another way to import the CSV without setting the working directory would be to specify the entire file path in R when importing:

```
#read in CSV file using entire file path
```

```
df <- read.csv('C:UsersBobDesktopdata.csv',  
header=TRUE, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
```

```
#view data
```

```
df
```

```
team points assists
```

```
1 A 78 12
```

```
2 B 85 20
```

```
3 C 93 23
```

```
4 D 90 8
```

```
5 E 91 14
```

## How to Manually Enter Raw Data in R