

How can I merge multiple CSV files in R using a step-by-step example?

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In order to merge multiple CSV files in R, one can follow a step-by-step process to efficiently and effectively combine the data from each file. This process involves importing the CSV files into R, ensuring they have the same structure and column names, and using specific functions or packages to merge the files together. By following this step-by-step example, one can easily merge multiple CSV files in R and create a cohesive dataset for further analysis.

Merge Multiple CSV Files in R (Step-by-Step Example)

You can use the following basic syntax to import and merge multiple CSV files located in the same folder into R:

```
df <- list.files(path='C:/my/path/to/files') %>%  
lapply(read_csv) %>%  
bind_rows
```

The following step-by-step example shows how to use this syntax in practice.

Step 1: Create & Export Multiple Data Frames

First, we'll use the following code to create and export three data frames to CSV files:

```
#create three data frames  
df1 <- data.frame(points=c(4, 5, 5, 6, 8, 9),  
assists=c(3, 2, 4, 4, 6, 3))
```

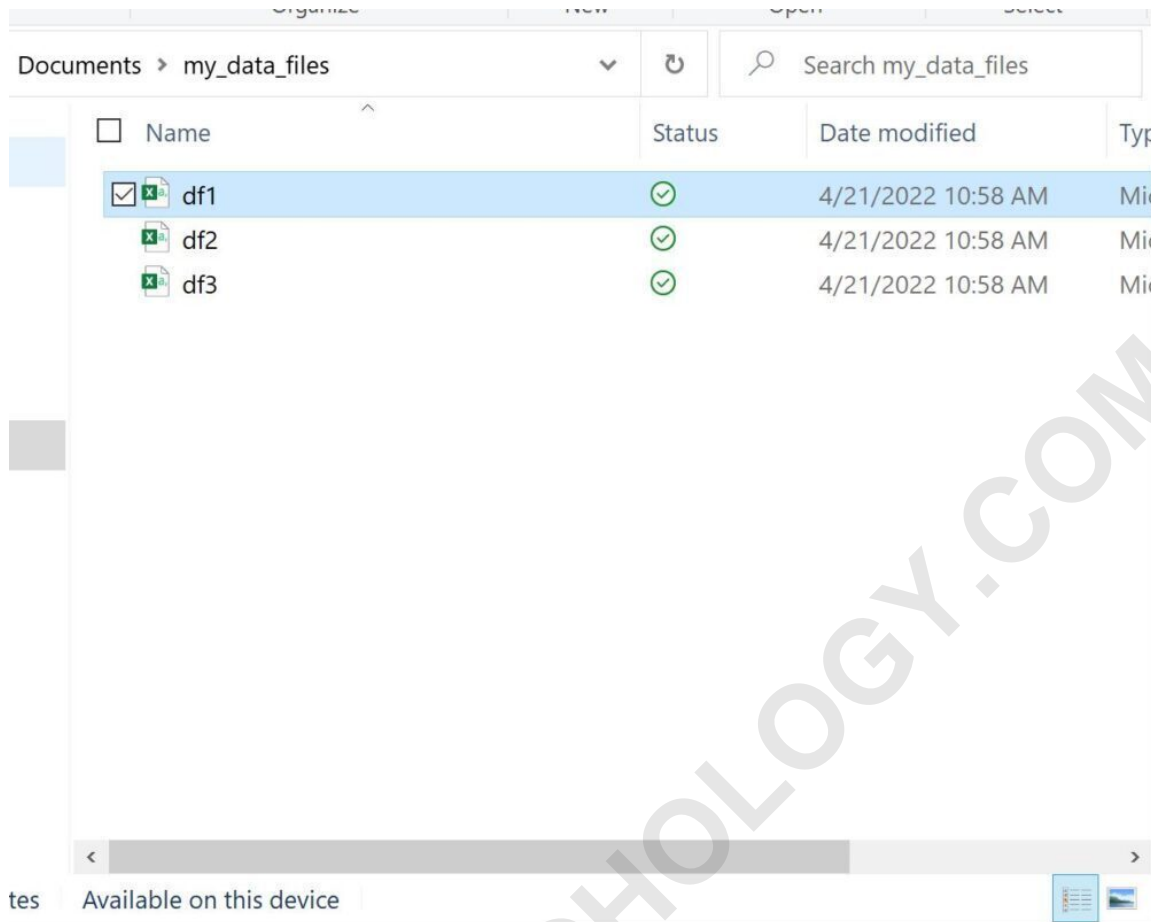
```
df2 <- data.frame(points=c(2, 10, 14, 15),  
assists=c(3, 2, 9, 3))
```

```
df3 <- data.frame(points=c(6, 8, 9),  
assists=c(10, 6, 4))
```

```
#export all three data frames to CSV files
```

```
write.csv(df1,  
'C:/Users/bob/Documents/my_data_files/df1.csv',  
row.names=FALSE)  
write.csv(df2,  
'C:/Users/bob/Documents/my_data_files/df2.csv',  
row.names=FALSE)  
write.csv(df3,  
'C:/Users/bob/Documents/my_data_files/df3.csv',  
row.names=FALSE)
```

I can navigate to this folder and see that the three CSV files were successfully exported:



Step 2: Import & Merge Multiple CSV Files

Next, we'll use the following code to import and merge all three CSV files into one data frame in R:

```
library(dplyr)
```

```
library(readr)
```

```
#import and merge all three CSV files into one data  
frame
```

```
df <-
```

```
list.files(path='C:/Users/bob/Documents/my_data_files')
```

```
%>%  
lapply(read_csv) %>%  
bind_rows  
  
#view resulting data frame  
df  
  
# A tibble: 13 x 2  
points assists
```

```
1 4 3
```

```
2 5 2
```

```
3 5 4
```

```
4 6 4
```

```
5 8 6
```

```
6 9 3
```

```
7 2 3
```

```
8 10 2
```

```
9 14 9
```

```
10 15 3
```

```
11 6 10
```

```
12 8 6
```

```
13 9 4
```

Notice that all three CSV files have been successfully

merged into one data frame.

We can see that the resulting data frame has 13 rows and 2 columns.

Note: If the data frames do not have matching column names, R will still merge all of the data frames and simply fill in missing values with NA values.

Additional Resources

The following tutorials explain how to work with other file types in R: