

# How can I use dplyr to replace multiple values in a data frame?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I use dplyr to replace multiple values in a data frame?*.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=155692>

Dplyr is a popular R package used for data manipulation and analysis. One useful function of dplyr is the ability to replace multiple values in a data frame. This can be done by using the "mutate" function and specifying the column and values to be replaced using the "case\_when" function. By using dplyr, users can efficiently and accurately replace multiple values in their data frames, making data cleaning and manipulation tasks more streamlined and manageable.

## Replace Multiple Values in Data Frame Using dplyr

You can use the following basic syntax to replace multiple values in a data frame in R using functions from the package:

```
library(dplyr)
```

```
df %>%
```

```
mutate(var1 = recode(var1, 'oldvalue1' = 'newvalue1',  
'oldvalue2' = 'newvalue2'),  
var2 = recode(var2, 'oldvalue1' = 'newvalue1',  
'oldvalue2' = 'newvalue2'))
```

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

**Example: Replace Multiple Values Using dplyr**

Suppose we have the following data frame in R that contains information about various basketball players:

```
#create data frame
```

```
df <- data.frame(conf=c('East', 'East', 'West', 'West',  
'North'),  
position=c('Guard', 'Guard', 'Guard', 'Guard', 'Forward'),  
points=c(22, 25, 29, 13, 18))
```

```
#view data frame
```

```
df
```

```
conf position points
```

```
1 East Guard 22
```

```
2 East Guard 25
```

```
3 West Guard 29
```

```
4 West Guard 13
```

```
5 North Forward 18
```

Now suppose we would like to replace the following values in the data frame:

'conf' column: Replace 'East' with 'E' Replace 'West' with 'W'  
Replace 'North' with 'N'  
'position' column: Replace 'Guard' with 'G' Replace 'Forward' with 'F'

We can use the mutate() and recode() functions to do so:

```
library(dplyr)
```

```
#replace multiple values in conf and position columns
```

```
df %>%
```

```
mutate(conf = recode(conf, 'East' = 'E', 'West' = 'W',  
'North' = 'N'),
```

```
position = recode(position, 'Guard' = 'G', 'Forward' = 'F'))
```

```
conf position points
```

```
1 E G 22
```

```
2 E G 25
```

```
3 W G 29
```

```
4 W G 13
```

```
5 N F 18
```

Notice that each of the values in the 'conf' and 'position' columns have been replaced with specific values.

Also notice that the values in the 'points' column have remain unchanged.

### Additional Resources

The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks using dplyr: