

# How do I add an empty column to a data frame in R?

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May 4, 2024

## RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How do I add an empty column to a data frame in R?*.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=142626>

To add an empty column to a data frame in R, you can use the "data.frame" function and specify the number of rows and columns in the data frame. Then, you can use the "cbind" function to add a new column with no values. Alternatively, you can use the "mutate" function from the dplyr package to add an empty column to an existing data frame. This can be achieved by using the "mutate" function and specifying the name of the new column and assigning it a value of "NA" for all rows. Overall, these methods allow for the easy addition of an empty column to a data frame in R for further data manipulation and analysis.

## Add an Empty Column to a Data Frame in R

You can use the following basic syntax to add one or more empty columns to a data frame in R:

```
#add one empty column called 'column1' to data frame  
df <- NA
```

```
#add several empty columns to data frame  
empty_cols <- c('column1', 'column2', 'column3')  
df <- NA
```

The following examples show how to use this syntax in practice.

**Example 1: Add One Empty Column to Data Frame**

The following code shows how to add one empty column to a data frame in R:

```
#create data frame
```

```
df <- data.frame(team=c('Mavs', 'Mavs', 'Spurs', 'Nets'),  
points=c(99, 90, 84, 96),  
assists=c(22, 19, 16, 20))
```

```
#view data frame
```

```
df
```

```
team points assists
```

```
1 Mavs 99 22
```

```
2 Mavs 90 19
```

```
3 Spurs 84 16
```

```
4 Nets 96 20
```

```
#add new empty column
```

```
df <- NA
```

```
#view updated data frame
```

```
df
```

```
team points assists blocks
```

```
1 Mavs 99 22 NA
```

```
2 Mavs 90 19 NA
```

```
3 Spurs 84 16 NA
```

```
4 Nets 96 20 NA
```

## Example 2: Add Multiple Empty Columns to Data Frame

The following code shows how to add multiple empty columns to a data frame in R:

```
#create data frame
```

```
df <- data.frame(team=c('Mavs', 'Mavs', 'Spurs', 'Nets'),  
points=c(99, 90, 84, 96),  
assists=c(22, 19, 16, 20))
```

```
#view data frame
```

```
df
```

```
team points assists
```

```
1 Mavs 99 22
```

```
2 Mavs 90 19
```

```
3 Spurs 84 16
```

```
4 Nets 96 20
```

```
#define names of empty columns to add
```

```
empty_cols <- c('blocks', 'rebounds', 'steals')
```

```
#add multiple empty columns
```

```
df <- NA
```

```
#view updated data frame
```

**df**

**team points assists blocks rebounds steals**

**1 Mavs 99 22 NA NA NA**

**2 Mavs 90 19 NA NA NA**

**3 Spurs 84 16 NA NA NA**

**4 Nets 96 20 NA NA NA**

**The following tutorials explain how to create other empty objects in R:**

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