

# How to Add Days to Date in R (With Examples)

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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Adding days to a date in R is a simple process utilizing the lubridate package. First, you need to create the date object and then use the `days()` function from lubridate to add the desired number of days. An example of this would be `date + days(3)` to add three days to the date. Additionally, the `difftime()` function can be used to calculate the difference between two dates. All of these functions allow for the easy manipulation of dates in R.

You can use one of the following methods to add a certain number of days to a date in R:

### Method 1: Use Base R

```
#create new column that adds 5 days to date column
df$date_plus5 <- as.Date(df$date) + 5
```

### Method 2: Use lubridate Package

```
library(lubridate)
```

```
#create new column that adds 5 days to date column
df$date_plus5 <- ymd(df$date) + days(5)
```

The following examples show how to use each method with the following data frame:

```
#create data frame
df <- data.frame(date=c('2022-01-03', '2022-02-15', '2022-05-09',
'2022-08-10', '2022-10-14', '2022-12-30'),
sales=c(130, 98, 120, 88, 94, 100))
```

```
#view data frame
df
```

```
date sales
1 2022-01-03 130
2 2022-02-15 98
3 2022-05-09 120
4 2022-08-10 88
5 2022-10-14 94
6 2022-12-30 100
```

**Note:** To subtract days from a date, simply change the addition sign to a subtraction sign in either

of the formulas above.

## Example 1: Add Days to Date Using Base R

The following code shows how to create a new column called **date\_plus5** that adds five days to each of the dates in the **date** column:

```
#create new column that adds 5 days to date column
df$date_plus5 <- as.Date(df$date) + 5
```

```
#view updated data frame
df
```

```
date sales date_plus5
1 2022-01-03 130 2022-01-08
2 2022-02-15 98 2022-02-20
3 2022-05-09 120 2022-05-14
4 2022-08-10 88 2022-08-15
5 2022-10-14 94 2022-10-19
6 2022-12-30 100 2023-01-04
```

Notice that the values in the new **date\_plus5** column are equal to the values in the **date** column with five days added to them.

We can also use the **class()** function to confirm that the new column is in a date format:

```
#display class of date_plus5 column
class(df$date_plus5)
```

```
"Date"
```

## Example 2: Add Days to Date Using lubridate Package

The following code shows how to use the **ymd()** and **days()** functions from the **lubridate** package to create a new column called **date\_plus5** that adds five days to each of the dates in the **date** column:

```
library(lubridate)
```

```
#create new column that adds 5 days to date column
df$date_plus5 <- ymd(df$date) + days(5)
```

```
#view updated data frame
df

date sales date_plus5
1 2022-01-03 130 2022-01-08
2 2022-02-15 98 2022-02-20
3 2022-05-09 120 2022-05-14
4 2022-08-10 88 2022-08-15
5 2022-10-14 94 2022-10-19
6 2022-12-30 100 2023-01-04
```

**Note:** The `ymd()` function tells the `lubridate` package that the values in the date column are currently in a year-month-date format.

Refer to the `lubridate` for more date formatting options.