

# How to fix the error Error in stripchart.default(x1, ...) : invalid plotting method

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2025). *How to fix the error Error in stripchart.default(x1, ...) : invalid plotting method*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=101639>

The `stripchart.default()` function in R expects a valid plotting method to be specified as an argument. To fix this error, the user should provide a valid plotting method as an argument to the `stripchart.default()` function in order for the function to plot the data correctly.

One error you may encounter in R is:

### **Error in stripchart.default(x1, ...) : invalid plotting method**

This error usually occurs when you attempt to create a scatter plot using a data frame instead of a vector.

This tutorial shares exactly how to fix this error.

### **How to Reproduce the Error**

Suppose we have the following data frame in R:

```
#create data frame  
df <- data.frame(x=c(1, 2, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9),  
y=c(5, 5, 8, 10, 13, 13, 18))
```

```
#view data frame  
df
```

```
x y  
1 1 5  
2 2 5  
3 2 8  
4 4 10  
5 7 13  
6 8 13  
7 9 18
```

Now suppose we attempt to use the following syntax to create a scatter plot:

```
#attempt to create scatter plot  
plot(df, df)
```

```
Error in stripchart.default(x1, ...) : invalid plotting method
```

We receive an error because both **df** and **df** are actually data frames and the **plot()** function only accepts vectors as input.

We can use the **class()** function to verify that **df** and **df** are both data frames:

```
#display class of df and df
```

```
class(df);class(df)
```

```
"data.frame"
```

```
"data.frame"
```

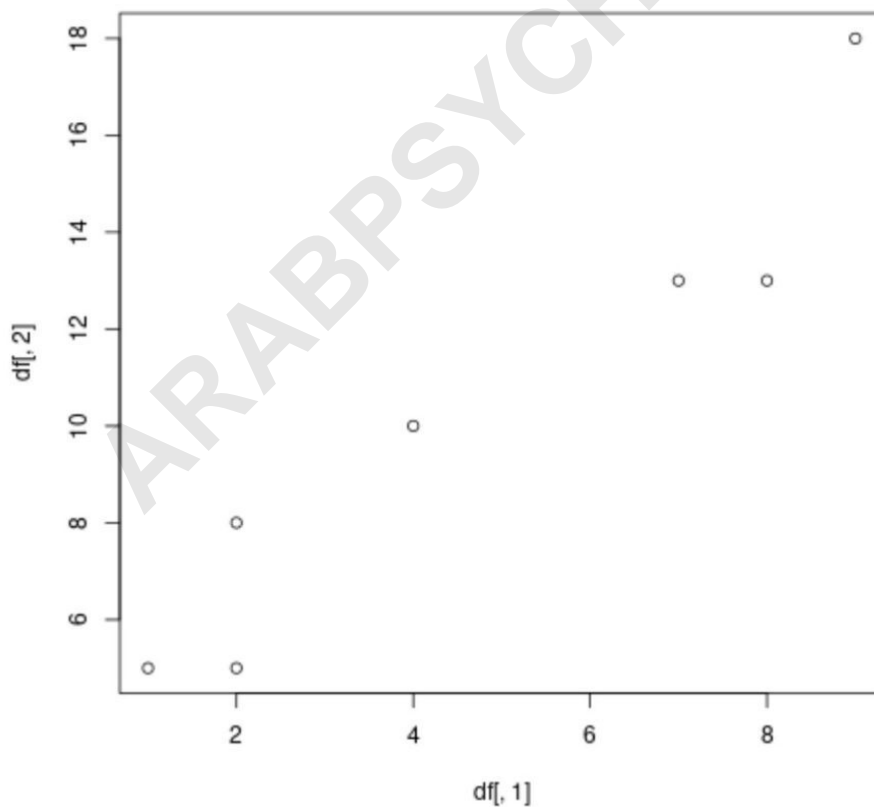
## How to Fix the Error

The way to fix this error is to make sure that we use vectors as inputs for the **plot()** function.

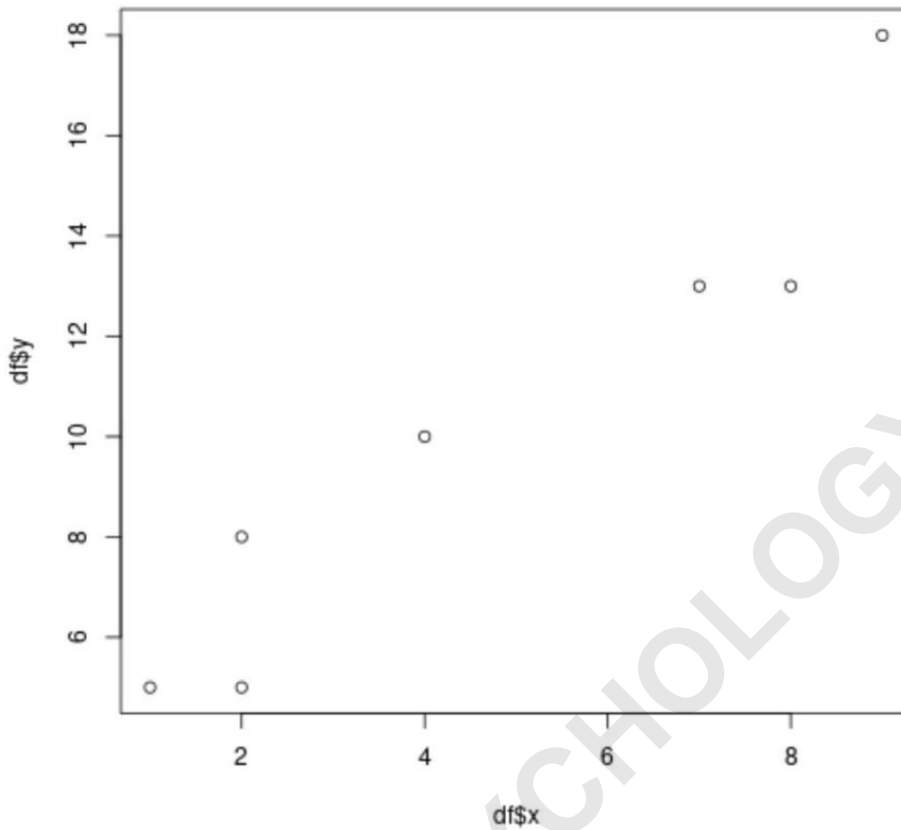
For example, we can use the following syntax to create a scatter plot:

```
#create scatter plot
```

```
plot(df[,1], df[,2])
```



```
#create scatter plot  
plot(df$x, df$y)
```



Notice that we're able to create a scatter plot using either method without any errors because we used vectors as inputs to the **plot()** function each time.

The following tutorials explain how to troubleshoot other common errors in R:

[How to Fix in R: longer object length is not a multiple of shorter object length](#)