

# formatR: Format R Code Automatically

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The package **formatR** (Xie, 2012a) was designed to help users tidy (reformat) their source code. This vignette serves as a showcase of the function *tidy.source()*, and a broader introduction can be found in <https://github.com/yihui/formatR/wiki/>.

## 1 The workhorse *tidy.source()*

The main function in this package is *tidy.source()*, which can take a file as input, parse it and write the formatted code to the console or a file.

```
library(formatR)
usage(tidy.source, width = 0.73)

## tidy.source(source = "clipboard", keep.comment = getOption("keep.comment",
## TRUE), keep.blank.line = getOption("keep.blank.line",
## TRUE), replace.assign = getOption("replace.assign",
## FALSE), left.brace.newline = getOption("left.brace.newline",
## FALSE), reindent.spaces = getOption("reindent.spaces",
## 4), output = TRUE, text = NULL, width.cutoff = getOption("width"),
## ...)
```

There are six options which can affect the output: `keep.comment`, `keep.blank.line`, `keep.space`, `reindent.spaces`, `left.brace.newline` and `replace.assign`. They are explained in the help page; see `?tidy.source`. For example, if we do not want to keep the blank lines in the code, we can first specify a global option like this:

```
options(keep.blank.line = FALSE)
```

The option `width` will affect the width of the output, e.g. we can specify a narrow width:

```
options(width = 80)
```

Here are some examples taken from the help page:

```
library(formatR)
## use the 'text' argument
src = c("    ## comments are retained;", "# a comment block will be reflowed if it contains long comm",
        "#' roxygen comments will not be wrapped in any case", "1+1", "if(TRUE){", "x=1 # inline comment",
        "}else{", "x=2;print('Oh no... ask the right bracket to go away!')}", "1*3 # one space before thi")
```

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## Discard comments

## 2 Applications

## About this vignette

Instructions on how to use **knitr** with LyX can be found at <http://yihui.name/knitr/demo/lyx/>.

## References

- Wickham H, Xie Y (2012). *Rd2roxygen: Convert Rd to roxygen documentation and utilities to improve documentation*. R package version 1.1.2, URL <http://yihui.name/Rd2roxygen>.
- Xie Y (2012a). *formatR: Format R Code Automatically*. R package version 0.7, URL <http://yihui.name/formatR>.
- Xie Y (2012b). *knitr: A general-purpose package for dynamic report generation in R*. R package version 0.8.19, URL <http://yihui.name/knitr/>.