

Installing R on your (internet-connected) computer is simple if you have clear directions that tell you exactly what to do in a way that is easy to understand. These instructions are accurate for version 2.8.0 of R released in October, 2008. Future versions likely can be installed in the same manner.

Obtaining the software

Go the main U.S. mirror of the R homepage at <http://cran.us.r-project.org/>. Depending on your operating system, click on the appropriate link.

Windows

1. Click on the link `Windows`;
2. Click on the link `base/`;
3. Click on the link `R-2.8.0-win32.exe` (or more recent version). This begins the download of a file whose size is about 31 MB. After the download is complete, double click on the downloaded file and follow the on-screen installation instructions.

Macintosh (OS X)

1. Click on the link `MacOS X`;
2. Click on the link `R-2.8.0.dmg` or the latest version which begins the download of the 61 MB file.
3. To install R, simply double-click on icon of the multi-package “R.mpkg” and follow instructions.