

# 2.3 Pros and Cons of using R

To re-cap and summarise, below is a table outlining the primary pros and cons of using R, as I see it:

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A flexible programming language</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Steep learning curve</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Free, platform-independent</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Packages vary in quality and vary over time</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Open source</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Updating can be tricky</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lots of contributors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Assumptions can be cryptic</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Broad in scope</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Frustrating when code won't run</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Always evolving</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>When it runs... is it correct?</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Great for stats research</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Requires independent checks/debugging/programming skills</li></ul>

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