

# Package ‘BiocStyle’

May 25, 2026

**Title** Standard styles for vignettes and other Bioconductor documents

**Description** Provides standard formatting styles for Bioconductor PDF and HTML documents. Package vignettes illustrate use and functionality.

**Version** 2.40.0

**Imports** bookdown, knitr (>= 1.30), rmarkdown (>= 1.2), stats, utils, yaml, BiocManager

**Suggests** BiocGenerics, RUnit, htmltools

**biocViews** Software

**License** Artistic-2.0

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Encoding** UTF-8

**URL** <https://github.com/Bioconductor/BiocStyle>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/Bioconductor/BiocStyle/issues>

**RoxygenNote** 6.1.0

**Date** 2025-08-01

**git\_url** <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/BiocStyle>

**git\_branch** RELEASE\_3\_23

**git\_last\_commit** 2817006

**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2026-04-28

**Repository** Bioconductor 3.23

**Date/Publication** 2026-05-25

**Author** Andrzej Oleś [aut] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0285-2787>>),  
Mike Smith [ctb] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7800-3848>>),  
Martin Morgan [ctb],  
Wolfgang Huber [ctb],  
Bioconductor Package Maintainer [cre]

**Maintainer** Bioconductor Package Maintainer <[maintainer@bioconductor.org](mailto:maintainer@bioconductor.org)>

## Contents

BiocStyle-defunct . . . . .	2
helpers . . . . .	2
html_document . . . . .	3
latex . . . . .	5
macros . . . . .	6
markdown . . . . .	8
md_document . . . . .	9
output . . . . .	10
pdf_document . . . . .	10
use_vignette_html . . . . .	12
<b>Index</b>	<b>13</b>

---

BiocStyle-defunct	<i>Defunct functions in package ‘BiocStyle’</i>
-------------------	---

---

### Description

These functions are defunct and no longer available.

### Details

The following functions are no longer available; use the replacement indicated below:

- latex\_old, latex2: [latex](#)
- pdf\_document\_old, pdf\_document2: [pdf\\_document](#)
- html\_document\_old, html\_document2: [html\\_document](#)

---

helpers	<i>Specify Rmarkdown document metadata</i>
---------	--

---

### Description

Helper functions for including metadata in the document header.

### Usage

```
pkg_ver(pkg)
```

```
doc_date()
```

### Arguments

```
pkg          character(1), package name
```

**Details**

Use `doc_date` to include document compilation date in the document metadata field `'date'`, and `pkg_ver` for package version specification in the `'package'` field.

**Value**

Markdown-formatted character string.

**Author(s)**

Andrzej Oleś <andrzej.oles@embl.de>, 2014-2015

**Examples**

```
## current date
doc_date()

## package name with version
pkg_ver("BiocStyle")
```

---

html\_document

*Use Bioconductor style to format R Markdown HTML output*

---

**Description**

Format for converting from R Markdown to an Bioconductor HTML document.

**Usage**

```
html_document(
  toc = TRUE,
  number_sections = TRUE,
  fig_width = NA,
  fig_height = NA,
  self_contained = TRUE,
  css = NULL,
  pandoc_args = NULL,
  ...,
  titlecaps = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

toc	logical(1), TRUE to include a table of contents in the output
number_sections	logical(1), TRUE to number section headings
fig_width	numeric(1), default width (in inches) for figures
fig_height	numeric(1), default width (in inches) for figures
self_contained	numeric(1), TRUE to produce a standalone HTML file with no external dependencies, using data: URIs to incorporate the contents of linked scripts, stylesheets, images, and videos. Note that even for self contained documents MathJax is still loaded externally (this is necessary because of it's size).
css	character, one or more css files to include
pandoc_args	character, additional command line options to pass to pandoc
...	Additional arguments passed to <a href="#">html_document</a>
titlecaps	logical(1), TRUE to use the emphasize the first sentence in figure and table captions as title

## Details

`BiocStyle::html_document` format extends the [html\\_document](#) format. See the [online documentation](#) and the package vignette "Authoring R Markdown Vignettes" for additional details on using the format,

## Value

R Markdown output format to pass to [render](#)

## Author(s)

Andrzej Oleś <[andrzej.oles@embl.de](mailto:andrzej.oles@embl.de)>, 2014-2017

## See Also

[pdf\\_document](#), [md\\_document](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:  
  
# simple invocation  
render("input.Rmd", BiocStyle::html_document())  
  
# specify options  
render("input.Rmd", BiocStyle::html_document(toc = FALSE))  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

latex *Use Bioconductor style to format LaTeX vignettes*

---

### Description

This function inserts code into a document preamble to provide a consistent style to Bioconductor vignettes.

### Usage

```
latex(  
  ...,  
  width,  
  titlecaps = TRUE,  
  short.fignames = FALSE,  
  fig.path,  
  use.unsrurl = TRUE,  
  relative.path = FALSE  
)
```

### Arguments

...	Additional arguments, passed to <a href="#">options</a> .
width	integer(1), maximum number of columns on a line used in printing. See <a href="#">options</a> .
titlecaps	logical(1), emphasize the first sentence of float captions
short.fignames	logical(1), indicates whether <code>\incfig</code> figures should be inserted and referred to using short names equal to corresponding code chunk labels without any additional prefix.
fig.path	character(1), custom prefix to be used for figure file names when used with <code>knitr</code> ; has no effect when compiled with <code>Sweave</code> . For details see <a href="#">opts_chunk</a> .
use.unsrurl	logical(1), indicating that the ‘ <code>unsrurl</code> ’ style will be used ( <code>\bibliographystyle</code> command <i>not</i> required).
relative.path	logical(1), copy supporting LaTeX files and use relative paths rather than absolute paths to system files.

### Details

Use is described in the ‘Bioconductor LaTeX Style 2.0’ vignette.

By default the ‘`unsrurl`’ bibliography style is used, which automatically creates links to URL, DOIs, etc. Use a different `bibliographystyle` with `use.unsrurl=FALSE` and standard LaTeX commands for styling bibliographies.

### Value

The return value is a character string directing LaTeX to use the Bioconductor style file.

A side effect is setting any options specified as arguments.

**Author(s)**

Andrzej Oleś, Martin Morgan, Wolfgang Huber

**Examples**

```
## location of the .sty file
BiocStyle:::bioconductor.sty
```

---

macros

*Link to packages on Bioconductor, CRAN and GitHub*

---

**Description**

Functions for adding links to Bioconductor, CRAN and GitHub packages into R Markdown documents.

**Usage**

```
Biocpkg(pkg, vignette = NULL, label = NULL)
```

```
Biocbook(pkg, label = NULL)
```

```
Biocannopkg(pkg)
```

```
Biocexptpkg(pkg)
```

```
CRANpkg(pkg)
```

```
Rpackage(pkg)
```

```
Githubpkg(repo, pkg)
```

**Arguments**

pkg	character(1), package name
vignette	character(1), basename of vignette link, including html or pdf extension, e.g., "work-0-intro.html".
label	character(1) label used to identify the package or vignette. If NULL, defaults to pkg.
repo	Repository address in the format username/repo[/subdir]

## Details

Use `Biocpkg` for Bioconductor software, annotation, experiment data, and workflow packages. When `vignette=NULL`, the function automatically includes a link to the package landing page, the version of which depends on the current Bioconductor version (i.e. if run in a devel environment, it will point towards the devel landing page; otherwise it will point to the release landing page).

Use `Biocbook` for Bioconductor webbooks. This will create a link to the index page of the book rather than to the landing page of the package used for the book's deployment.

Use `CRANpkg` for R packages available on CRAN. The function automatically includes a link to the master CRAN landing page.

Use `GitHubpkg` for R packages available on GitHub. The repo should include the repository address in the format `username/repo[/subdir]`. If package is missing, the package name is assumed to be equal the repository name and is extracted from repo.

For R packages which are not available on Bioconductor, CRAN or GitHub, use `Rpackage`.

## Value

Markdown-formatted character vector containing a hyperlinked package name. If `vignette != NULL`, the address of the specified vignette is returned.

## Author(s)

Andrzej Oleś <andrzej.oles@embl.de>, 2014-2015

## Examples

```
## link to a Bioconductor software package
Biocpkg("IRanges")

## link to a Bioconductor annotation package
Biocpkg("org.Mm.eg.db")

## link to a Bioconductor experiment data package
Biocpkg("affydata")

## link to a Bioconductor workflow
Biocpkg("simpleSingleCell")
Biocpkg(
  "simpleSingleCell",
  vignette = "work-0-intro.html",
  label = "Episode 1: analyzing scRNA-seq data with R/Bioconductor"
)

## link to a CRAN package
CRANpkg("data.table")

## link to an R package on GitHub
GitHubpkg("rstudio/rmarkdown")
```

---

markdown

*Use Bioconductor CSS style to format HTML vignettes*

---

## Description

This function sets the Bioconductor style sheet to provide a consistent style across Bioconductor HTML vignettes.

## Usage

```
markdown(css.files, self.contained = TRUE, links.target = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

`css.files` character vector containing the location of additional .css files.

`self.contained` logical(1), should the content of the CSS stylesheet files be included into the html file or should they be saved as separate files.

`links.target` logical(1), should external links open in new browser tab/window.

## Details

Use is described in the ‘Bioconductor CSS Style’ vignette.

## Value

No value is returned. The function is called for its side effect of setting the markdown and/or knitr specific options controlling the inclusion of the Bioconductor CSS style file in the HTML output.

## Author(s)

Andrzej Oleś <andrzej.oles@embl.de>, 2014-2015

## Examples

```
## location of the .css file  
BiocStyle:::bioconductor.css
```

---

md_document	<i>Convert to a BiocStyle markdown document</i>
-------------	---

---

## Description

Enable BiocStyle macros and author affiliations in markdown documents.

## Usage

```
md_document(toc = TRUE, ...)
```

## Arguments

toc	TRUE to include a table of contents in the output
...	Additional function arguments to pass to the base R Markdown <a href="#">md_document</a> output formatter

## Details

The `BiocStyle::md_document` format extends the base [md\\_document](#) format by means of specifying complex author affiliations. It also loads the BiocStyle package namespace to enable the use of helper functions, such as [Biocpkg](#).

## Value

R Markdown output format to pass to [render](#)

## Author(s)

Andrzej Oleś <[andrzej.oles@embl.de](mailto:andrzej.oles@embl.de)>, 2015-2016

## See Also

[html\\_document](#), [pdf\\_document](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:  
  
rmarkdown::render("input.Rmd", BiocStyle::md_document())  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

output	<i>Output format of an R Markdown document</i>
--------	--

---

**Description**

Helper function to determine the document's current pandoc output format.

**Usage**

```
output()
```

**Details**

The function is useful for defining different behavior depending on the output format, e.g. figure settings.

**Value**

A character string specifying the pandoc output format.

**Author(s)**

Andrzej Oleś <andrzej.oles@embl.de>, 2016

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
## Switch between SVG and PDF figures depending on document output format  
knitr::opts_chunk$set(  
  dev = switch(output(), html = "svg", latex = "pdf")  
)  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

pdf_document	<i>Use Bioconductor style to format R Markdown PDF output</i>
--------------	---

---

**Description**

This function sets the Bioconductor style in PDF documents rendered using R Markdown v2.

**Usage**

```
pdf_document(  
  toc = TRUE,  
  number_sections = TRUE,  
  fig_width = NA,  
  fig_height = NA,  
  includes = NULL,  
  ...,  
  titlecaps = TRUE,  
  toc_newpage = FALSE,  
  use_unsrurl = TRUE,  
  relative_path = FALSE  
)
```

**Arguments**

toc	logical(1), TRUE to include a table of contents in the output
number_sections	logical(1), TRUE to number section headings
fig_width	numeric(1), default width (in inches) for figures
fig_height	numeric(1), default width (in inches) for figures
includes	Named list of additional content to include within the document (typically created using the <a href="#">includes</a> function).
...	Additional arguments passed to <a href="#">pdf_document</a> .
titlecaps	logical(1), TRUE to use the emphasize the first sentence in figure and table captions as title
toc_newpage	logical(1), TRUE to start the table of contents on a new page.
use_unsrurl	logical(1), indicating that the ‘unsrurl’ style will be used ( <code>\bibliographystyle</code> command <i>not</i> required).
relative_path	logical(1), copy supporting LaTeX files and use relative paths rather than absolute paths to system files.

**Value**

R Markdown output format to pass to [render](#).

**Author(s)**

Andrzej Oleś <[andrzej.oles@embl.de](mailto:andrzej.oles@embl.de)>, 2014-2017

**See Also**

[html\\_document](#), [md\\_document](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
  
# simple invocation  
render("input.Rmd", BiocStyle::pdf_document())  
  
# specify an option for latex engine  
render("input.Rmd", BiocStyle::pdf_document(toc = FALSE))  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

use\_vignette\_html      *Create 'Rmd' vignette templates for HTML or PDF output*

---

**Description**

Create 'Rmd' vignette templates for HTML or PDF output

**Usage**

```
use_vignette_html(destination = tempfile(fileext = ".Rmd"))  
  
use_vignette_pdf(destination = tempfile(fileext = ".Rmd"))
```

**Arguments**

destination      character(1) file path to destination. The directory of the destination must already exist, and the file must not. The default creates a file in the temporary directory, and so is removed when the R session ends.

**Examples**

```
use_vignette_html()
```

# Index

## \* **manip**

- helpers, [2](#)
- latex, [5](#)
- markdown, [8](#)
- pdf\_document, [10](#)

Biocannopkg (macros), [6](#)

Biocbook (macros), [6](#)

Biocexptpkg (macros), [6](#)

Biocpkg, [9](#)

Biocpkg (macros), [6](#)

BiocStyle-defunct, [2](#)

CRANpkg (macros), [6](#)

doc\_date (helpers), [2](#)

Githubpkg (macros), [6](#)

helpers, [2](#)

html\_document, [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [9](#), [11](#)

includes, [11](#)

latex, [2](#), [5](#)

macros, [6](#)

markdown, [8](#)

md\_document, [4](#), [9](#), [9](#), [11](#)

options, [5](#)

opts\_chunk, [5](#)

output, [10](#)

pdf\_document, [2](#), [4](#), [9](#), [10](#), [11](#)

pkg\_ver (helpers), [2](#)

render, [4](#), [9](#), [11](#)

Rpackage (macros), [6](#)

use\_vignette\_html, [12](#)

use\_vignette\_pdf (use\_vignette\_html), [12](#)