

# Package ‘BiocCheck’

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**Title** Bioconductor-specific package checks

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**Description** BiocCheck guides maintainers through Bioconductor best practices. It runs Bioconductor-specific package checks by searching through package code, examples, and vignettes. Maintainers are required to address all errors, warnings, and most notes produced.

**License** Artistic-2.0

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

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

**Depends** R (>= 4.4.0)

**Imports** BiocBaseUtils, BiocFileCache, BiocManager, biocViews, callr, cli, codetools, graph, httr2, knitr, methods, rvest, stringdist, tools, utils

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**biocViews** Infrastructure

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|           |                                                                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BiocCheck | <i>Check a package's adherence with the Bioconductor Package Guidelines</i> |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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## Description

Analyzes an R package for adherence with Bioconductor package guidelines and best practices. The check outputs are categorized into ERROR, WARNING, and NOTE. See the vignette for more details. BiocCheck is complementary to R CMD check, which should always be run first.

## Usage

```
BiocCheck(
  package = getwd(),
  checkDir = dirname(package),
  debug = FALSE,
  callr = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| package | The path to an R package directory or tarball (.tar.gz). The BiocCheck function is intended to be run from the package directory; therefore, the current working directory (given by getwd()) is the default. |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| checkDir | The directory where the BiocCheck output directory will be stored. By default, it will be placed in the same directory as the package directory i.e., <code>dirname(pkg_dir)</code> .                                                                              |
| debug    | Whether to append the names of functions that correspond to each condition raised by BiocCheck in the written log (i.e., in the ' <code>&lt;package_name&gt;.BiocCheck</code> ' folder). This option is only relevant to developers and contributors to BiocCheck. |
| callr    | <code>logical(1)</code> Whether to use the <code>callr</code> package to run BiocCheck in an isolated R session to prevent namespace collisions.                                                                                                                   |
| ...      | See the details section for available options. When running BiocCheck, options can be specified as:<br><br><code>BiocCheck(package, `no-check-vignettes`=TRUE)</code>                                                                                              |

## Details

`BiocCheck()` reviews R packages for adherence with Bioconductor package guidelines and best practices. See <https://contributions.bioconductor.org> for the latest guidance for writing Bioconductor software. Some rationale behind these best practices can be seen in the vignette and pages in the references section. The vignette also provides detailed explanations of all the checks performed by BiocCheck.

BiocCheck is called within R with

```
BiocCheck(<package>)
```

where `package` points to the source directory or the `.tar.gz` tarball that was created using R CMD build.

*Note* that BiocCheck is complementary to R CMD check. R CMD check should always be run first for best results.

## Value

`BiocCheck()` is chiefly called for the side effect of the check reporting. The function also creates a `<package_name>.BiocCheck` folder and returns a BiocCheck reference class with three main list elements:

- **error:** Items to address before the package can be accepted
- **warning:** Strongly suggested items that may require attention
- **note:** Items to consider, though not required, before acceptance

## dot-options

- `build-output-file`: file containing R CMD build output, for additional analysis
- `new-package`: enable checks specific to new packages
- `no-check-bbs`: disable BBS-specific checks (for non-BioC packages). Valid DESCRIPTION
- `no-check-bioc-help`: disable check for registration on Bioconductor
- `no-check-bioc-views`: disable biocViews-specific checks (for non-BioC packages) mailing list and support site
- `no-check-coding-practices`: disable check for some common best coding practices

- `no-check-CRAN`: disable check for if package exists in CRAN
- `no-check-dependencies`: disable check for bad dependencies
- `no-check-deprecated`: disable check for usage of deprecated packages
- `no-check-description`: disable DESCRIPTION file checks
- `no-check-file-size`: disable check for individual file size
- `no-check-formatting`: disable checks for file formatting
- `no-check-function-len`: disable check for function length
- `no-check-install-self`: disable check for require or library of itself
- `no-check-library-calls`: disable check usage of functions that install or update packages
- `no-check-man-doc`: disable checks for man page documentation
- `no-check-namespace`: disable NAMESPACE file checks
- `no-check-news`: disable checks for NEWS file
- `no-check-pkg-size`: disable check for package tarball size
- `no-check-R-ver`: disable check for valid R version
- `no-check-remotes`: disable check for usage of remote packages other than those hosted on CRAN or Bioconductor
- `no-check-skip-bioc-tests`: disable check for tests that skip when on bioc
- `no-check-unit-tests`: disable checks for unit tests
- `no-check-version-num`: disable check for valid version number
- `no-check-vignettes`: disable vignette checks
- `quit-with-status`: enable exit code option when performing check

**Author(s)**

Dan Tenenbaum, Lori Shepherd, and Marcel Ramos

**References**

<https://contributions.bioconductor.org>

**See Also**

[BiocCheck-class](#), [Message-class](#)

**Examples**

```
packageDir <- system.file("testpackages", "testpkg0", package="BiocCheck")
BiocCheck(packageDir, `quit-with-status`=FALSE)
```

---

|                 |                                                          |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| BiocCheck-class | <i>An internal class for composing BiocCheck reports</i> |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|

---

## Description

The BiocCheck class provides a framework for reporting checks based on Bioconductor guidelines. The class has several methods for working with the provided checks that handle and display messages and the display of the metadata. These methods also record the output of the BiocCheck() report in both plain text and JSON formats.

**Note** that currently, multiple BiocCheck runs will interfere with each other given that they are implemented via a reference class semantic. When running multiple checks in the same session, you can separate these instances by running them in separate processes (e.g., via BiocParallel).

## Arguments

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ...       | character() A vector that makes up the BiocCheck exception message (e.g., 'Vignette must be built by R CMD build'). The character vector is handled with paste0 and made into a list and appended with help_text and messages. |
| help_text | character(1) Additional text prompting a list of files (e.g., "Found in files:")                                                                                                                                               |
| condition | character(1) One of the three conditions handled: error, warning, or note                                                                                                                                                      |
| messages  | character() Often a vector of file names where the check was triggered.                                                                                                                                                        |
| debug     | logical(1) Whether to append the name of the originating check name into for trace-ability                                                                                                                                     |
| checkName | character(1) The title of the current group of checks. It can be set with handleCheck, e.g., handleCheck("Checking for version number mismatch..."). Internally, it ' is saved with setCheck and obtained with getLastCheck.   |
| isOnBBS   | logical(1) Indicates whether the checks are being run on the Bioconductor Build System (BBS). This is helpful for avoiding the creation of folders in the BBS.                                                                 |
| file      | character(1) A path to a JSON file for writing or reading as created by toJSON and fromJSON BiocCheck methods.                                                                                                                 |

## Details

The metadata includes a number of standard fields to allow easier troubleshooting and display of potentially relevant information. Currently, the fields included are:

- BiocCheckVersion: The version of the BiocCheck package
- BiocVersion: The version of Bioconductor
- Package: The name of the package in check
- PackageVersion: The version of the package in check
- sourceDir: The directory of the package source or tarball in check
- installDir: The directory where the package is installed for testing, a temporary location by default

- `BiocCheckDir`: The directory where the `<package>.BiocCheck` folder is saved. Usually the same folder as the package in check
- `platform`: The platform/OS where the check is taking place
- `isTarBall`: Whether the package in check is a source directory or a tarball

### Value

An internal BiocCheck R5 Reference Class used to document conditions such as errors, warnings, and notes

### Fields

`log list()` A running list of all conditions raised (i.e., notes, warnings, errors)

`check character(1)` The title of the last check used for logging purposes.

`error,warning,note list()` Finer extraction of each condition type

`metadata list()` A list of additional information relevant to the package and its state. See details.

### methods

- `add`: Include a condition to the BiocCheck report
- `addMetadata`: Add metadata to the BiocCheck object from a BiocPackage object
- `getLastCheck`: Obtain the name of the last check run
- `setCheck`: Create a new element in the internal list for a check
- `get`: Extract the list of conditions raised by BiocCheck
- `getNum`: Tally the number of condition provided by the input
- `zero`: Reset the internal log of the condition provided
- `getBiocCheckDir`: Report and create the `<package>.BiocCheck` directory as obtained from the metadata
- `composeReport`: Simplify the list structure from the log and provide a character vector of conditions raised
- `report`: Write the `00BiocCheck.log` report into the BiocCheck folder
- `toJSON`: Write a JSON file to the location indicated with the conditions raised
- `fromJSON`: Read a JSON file from the location indicated with the output of previous conditions raised in the check
- `show`: Display the information in the class. Currently empty.
- `show_meta`: Display the metadata information stored in the metadata field

### See Also

[Message-class](#), [BiocPackage-class](#)

### Examples

```
bc <- BiocCheck:::BiocCheck
```

---

|                   |                                                               |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| BiocCheckGitClone | <i>Checks specific to a Git clone of a package repository</i> |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|

---

## Description

Analyzes an R package for adherence with Bioconductor package guidelines and best practices. The check outputs are categorized into ERROR, WARNING, and NOTE. This function is typically used in the Bioconductor Build System (BBS) and not intended for general use.

## Usage

```
BiocCheckGitClone(package = ".", ...)
```

## Arguments

|         |                                                                     |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| package | A directory containing an R source package. Not a package tar ball. |
| ...     | Currently, only quit-with-status is available. See BiocCheck        |

## Details

BiocCheckGitClone() reviews R packages for adherence with Bioconductor package guidelines and best practices. See <https://contributions.bioconductor.org> for the latest guidance for writing Bioconductor software. This function should only be run on a source directory and not on a tarball.

BiocCheckGitClone is called within R with, as

```
BiocCheckGitClone(<package>)
```

where package is the source directory containing the R package.

## Value

BiocCheckGitClone() is chiefly called for the side effect of the check reporting. The function returns a BiocCheck reference class with three main list elements:

- error: Items to address before the package can be accepted
- warning: Strongly suggested items that may require attention
- note: Items to consider, though not required, before acceptance

## Author(s)

Lori Shepherd

## References

<https://contributions.bioconductor.org>

**See Also**[BiocCheck-class](#)**Examples**

```
packageDir <- system.file("testpackages", "testpkg0", package="BiocCheck")
BiocCheckGitClone(packageDir, `quit-with-status`=FALSE)
```

---

|                   |                                                                 |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| BiocPackage-class | <i>A class for representing files in a Bioconductor package</i> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

The BiocPackage class is used to represent a Bioconductor package. It is used by BiocCheck to store information about the package being checked. The class has several methods to identify the type of package, check for common issues, and store metadata about the package.

**Usage**

```
.BiocPackage
```

**Format**

An object of class BiocPackage of length 1.

**Value**

An object of class BiocPackage

**Fields**

`isValid` logical indicating whether the package's DESCRIPTION file was able to be read without any errors

`isTar` logical indicating whether the package is a tarball

`isSourceDir` logical indicating whether the package being checked is from a source directory

`isInfrastructure` logical indicating whether the package is an Bioconductor infrastructure package based on the `biocViews` field

`usesRoxygen` logical indicating whether the package uses roxygen2 documentation

`usesRdpack` logical indicating whether the package uses Rdpack package

`DESCRIPTION` matrix containing the DCF contents of the DESCRIPTION file

`dependencies` character vector of package dependencies

`readError` character error message if the DESCRIPTION file could not be read

`packageVersion` character version of the package

packageType character indicating the type of package based on the biocViews field; can be NA\_character\_ there are invalid biocViews terms  
 sourceDir character path to the source directory  
 vignettesDir character path to the vignettes directory  
 RSources character vector of R source files  
 VigSources character vector of vignette source files  
 manSources character vector of Rd source files  
 BiocCheckDir character path to the directory where the package BiocCheck logs are written  
 packageName character name of the package  
 tarFilename character filename of the tarball  
 metadata list containing metadata about the package

### methods

- initialize: Initialize a BiocPackage object
- getPackageDir: Get the package directory
- getRSources: Get the R source files
- getVigSources: Get the vignette source files
- getManSources: Get the Rd source files
- getBiocCheckDir: Get the directory where the BiocCheck logs are written
- getBiocViews: Get the biocViews field from the DESCRIPTION file
- getPackageType: Get the package type based on the biocViews field
- readDESCRIPTION: Read the DESCRIPTION file
- getVigBuilder: Get the vignette builder
- getAllDependencies: Get all dependencies from the DESCRIPTION file
- findInfrastructure: Is the package an infrastructure package?
- findRoxygen: Does the package use roxygen2?
- getPackageVersion: Get the package version
- untarTarball: Untar the source tarball

### See Also

[BiocCheck-class](#), [Message-class](#)

### Examples

```

# Create a BiocPackage object
packageDirectory <- "path/to/package"
if (dir.exists(packageDirectory))
  .biocTest <- .BiocPackage$initialize(packageDirectory)

.biocTest <- BiocCheck::.BiocPackage

.biocTest$DESCRIPTION

```

---

|         |                                                                                   |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Context | <i>Report context of events to user with a data.frame of events and locations</i> |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Report context of events to user with a data.frame of events and locations

**Usage**

```
Context(file = "", lines = character(), idx = logical(), offset = 0L)
```

**Arguments**

|        |                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| file   | character(1) full path (including package name) of file being summarized.                                                                                   |
| lines  | character() vector of text lines in file                                                                                                                    |
| idx    | logical() same length as lines indicating lines in which event occurs                                                                                       |
| offset | integer(1) The number of lines to add to the 'Line' column calculation. It is mainly used to account for the number of lines that the YAML header occupies. |

**Value**

Context: a data.frame() with columns File, Line, and Context

---

|               |                                                         |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Message-class | <i>A lower level Message helper class for BiocCheck</i> |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

A lower level Message helper class for BiocCheck

**Arguments**

|           |                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| condition | character(1) One of the three conditions handled: error, warning, or note                                                                          |
| ...       | list() A nested list with the check name as the top level layer. Second level lists include any help_text and messages that are part of the check. |

**Value**

.MessageCondition: An internal R5 Reference Class to handle messages and their conditions, e.g., for errors, warnings, or notes.

**Fields**

`msg list()` A list of character messages usually grown with `append` with conditions raised by a check

`condition character(1)` One of the three conditions handled: error, warning, or note

**methods**

- `setMessage`: Set the message and condition (error, warning, or note) for the check
- `setCondition`: Change the condition for the check
- `getCondition`: Get the condition from the Message class

**See Also**

[BiocCheck-class](#) [BiocPackage-class](#)

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