

Package: cpp4r (via r-universe)

June 4, 2026

Title Header-Only 'C++' and 'R' Interface

Version 0.7.0

Description Provides a header only, 'C++' interface to 'R' with enhancements over 'cpp11'. Enforces copy-on-write semantics consistent with 'R' behavior. Offers native support for ALTREP objects, 'UTF-8' string handling, modern 'C++' features and idioms, and reduced memory requirements. Allows for vendoring, making it useful for restricted environments. Compared to 'cpp11', it adds support for converting 'C++' maps to 'R' lists, 'Roxygen' documentation directly in 'C++' code, proper handling of matrix attributes, support for nullable external pointers, bidirectional copy of complex number types, flexibility in type conversions, use of nullable pointers, and various performance optimizations.

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URL <https://cpp4r.org>, <https://github.com/pachadotdev/cpp4r>

BugReports <https://github.com/pachadotdev/cpp4r/issues>

Depends R (>= 4.0.0)

Imports desc, utils

Suggests mockery, roxygen2, tinytest

Encoding UTF-8

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

Config/roxygen2/version 8.0.0

Repository <https://pachadotdev.r-universe.dev>

Date/Publication 2026-06-04 21:08:44 UTC

RemoteUrl <https://github.com/pachadotdev/cpp4r>

RemoteRef HEAD

RemoteSha 7b58b91482a136b485c33b2772e99bb705dbb1fe

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pkg_template	<i>Start a new project with the cpp4r package template</i>
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Description

This function copies a package template into a new directory. The template includes a DESCRIPTION file, a minimal R/ directory and placeholders with instructions. You can then edit these files to customize your new package.

Usage

```
pkg_template(path = NULL, pkgname = NULL)
```

Arguments

path	Path to the new project
pkgname	Name of the new package

Value

The file path to the copied template (invisibly).

Examples

```
# create a new directory
dir <- tempdir()
dir.create(dir)

# copy the package template into the directory
pkg_template(dir, "mynewpkg")
```

register	<i>Generates wrappers for registered C++ functions</i>
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Description

Functions decorated with `[[cpp4r::register]]` in files ending in `.cc`, `.cpp`, `.h` or `.hpp` will be wrapped in generated code and registered to be called from R.

Note registered functions will not be *exported* from your package unless you also add a `@export roxygen2` directive for them.

Usage

```
register(path = NULL, quiet = !is_interactive(), extension = c(".cpp", ".cc"))
```

Arguments

path	The path to the package root directory. The default is <code>NULL</code> ,
quiet	If <code>TRUE</code> suppresses output from this function
extension	The file extension to use for the generated <code>src/cpp4r</code> file. <code>.cpp</code> by default, but <code>.cc</code> is also supported.

Value

The paths to the generated R and C++ source files (in that order).

Examples

```
# create a minimal package
dir <- tempfile()
dir.create(dir)

writeLines("Package: testPkg", file.path(dir, "DESCRIPTION"))
writeLines("useDynLib(testPkg, .registration = TRUE)", file.path(dir, "NAMESPACE"))

# create a C++ file with a decorated function
dir.create(file.path(dir, "src"))
writeLines("[[cpp4r::register]] int one() { return 1; }", file.path(dir, "src", "one.cpp"))

# register the functions in the package
register(dir)

# Files generated by registration
file.exists(file.path(dir, "R", "cpp4r.R"))
file.exists(file.path(dir, "src", "cpp4r.cpp"))

# cleanup
unlink(dir, recursive = TRUE)
```

unvendor *Unvendor the cpp4r headers*

Description

This function removes the vendored cpp4r headers from your package by automatically finding the vendored headers.

Usage

```
unvendor(path = NULL)
```

Arguments

path The directory with the vendored headers. It is recommended to use `./src/vendor`. The default is `NULL`.

Value

The path to the unvendored code (invisibly).

Examples

```
# create a new directory
dir <- paste0(tempdir(), "/", gsub("\\s+|[[:punct:]]", "", Sys.time()))
dir.create(dir, recursive = TRUE)

# vendor the cpp4r headers into the directory
vendor(dir)

# unvendor the cpp4r headers from the directory
unvendor(dir)

# cleanup
unlink(dir, recursive = TRUE)
```

vendor *Vendor the cpp4r headers*

Description

Vendoring is the act of making your own copy of the 3rd party packages your project is using. It is often used in the go language community.

This function vendors cpp4r into your package by copying the cpp4r headers into the `inst/include` folder of your package and adding `'cpp4r version: XYZ'` to the top of the files, where XYZ is the version of cpp4r currently installed on your machine.

Note: vendoring places the responsibility of updating the code on **you**. Bugfixes and new features in cpp4r will not be available for your code until you run `cpp_vendor()` again.

Usage

```
vendor(path = NULL)
```

Arguments

path	The directory with the vendored headers. It is recommended to use <code>"/src/vendor"</code> . The default is <code>NULL</code> .
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Value

The path to the vendored code (invisibly).

Examples

```
# create a new directory
dir <- paste0(tempdir(), "/", gsub("\\s+|[[:punct:]]", "", Sys.time()))
dir.create(dir, recursive = TRUE, showWarnings = FALSE)

# vendor the cpp4r headers into the directory
vendor(dir)

list.files(dir, recursive = TRUE)

# cleanup
unlink(dir, recursive = TRUE)
```

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