

# Package ‘printtree’

January 30, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Print Directory Trees for R Projects and Folders

**Version** 0.2.0

**Description** Provides tools to print a compact, readable directory tree for a folder or project. The package can automatically detect common project roots (e.g., 'RStudio' '.Rproj' files) and formats output for quick inspection of code and data organization. It supports typical tree customizations such as limiting depth, excluding files using ignore patterns, and producing clean, aligned text output suitable for console use, reports, and reproducible documentation. A snapshot helper can also render the tree output to a PNG image for sharing in issues, teaching material, or project documentation.

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**URL** <https://github.com/PrigasG/printtree>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/PrigasG/printtree/issues>

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, spelling, testthat (>= 3.0.0), withr

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Language** en-US

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**NeedsCompilation** no

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**Repository** CRAN

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print\_rtree*Print an R Project or Directory Tree*

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**Description**

Prints a directory tree for a given path. Optionally detects an RStudio project (.Rproj) and can print from a project root.

**Usage**

```
print_rtree(
  path = NULL,
  ignore = c("renv", ".git", ".Rproj.user", "__pycache__", ".DS_Store", "node_modules",
            ".Rhistory"),
  max_depth = NULL,
  show_hidden = FALSE,
  project = c("auto", "root", "none"),
  search_paths = c(".", "..", "~/Documents", "~/Projects"),
  root_markers = c(".Rproj", "DESCRIPTION"),
  format = c("ascii", "unicode"),
  return_lines = FALSE,
  snapshot = FALSE,
  snapshot_file = "tree.png",
  snapshot_width = 800,
  snapshot_bg = c("white", "black"),
  snapshot_path = "."
)
```

**Arguments**

path	Character. Directory path, project name, or .Rproj file. If NULL, uses ".".
ignore	Character vector. Basenames to exclude (e.g., ".git", "renv").
max_depth	Integer. Maximum depth to traverse. NULL for unlimited.
show_hidden	Logical (TRUE/FALSE). Whether to include hidden files/directories (starting with ".").
project	One of "auto", "root", "none". <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "auto": use path as-is (only resolves project name / .Rproj file)</li> <li>• "root": walk upward from path to find a project root (via <code>root_markers</code>) and use it if found</li> <li>• "none": never attempt root detection; print the tree from path</li> </ul>
search_paths	Character vector. Used only when path is not an existing directory (treated as a project name). Paths are searched in order.

root_markers	Character vector. Markers used when <code>project = "root"</code> to detect a root directory. Special value <code>".Rproj"</code> means "any file ending in <code>.Rproj</code> ". Common markers include <code>"DESCRIPTION"</code> (R package root) and <code>"_quarto.yml"</code> (Quarto project root).
format	One of <code>"ascii"</code> or <code>"unicode"</code> . <code>"ascii"</code> is portable for all terminals.
return_lines	Logical. If <code>TRUE</code> , invisibly return the printed character vector of lines.
snapshot	Logical. If <code>TRUE</code> , saves a PNG snapshot of the tree.
snapshot_file	Character. Snapshot PNG filename (or full path).
snapshot_width	Integer. PNG width in pixels.
snapshot_bg	One of <code>"white"</code> or <code>"black"</code> for snapshot background.
snapshot_path	Character. Directory to save <code>snapshot_file</code> in when <code>snapshot_file</code> is not absolute.

## Value

Invisible `NULL`, or a character vector of printed lines if `return_lines = TRUE`.

## Examples

```
demo <- file.path(tempdir(), "printtree-demo")
if (dir.exists(demo)) unlink(demo, recursive = TRUE)
dir.create(demo, recursive = TRUE)
dir.create(file.path(demo, "R"))
file.create(file.path(demo, "R", "hello.R"))
file.create(file.path(demo, "README.md"))

print_rtree(demo)
print_rtree(demo, max_depth = 1)

png_file <- tempfile(fileext = ".png")
print_rtree(demo, snapshot = TRUE, snapshot_file = png_file)
```

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