

# Package ‘carpenter’

May 8, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Build Common Tables of Summary Statistics for Reports

**Version** 0.2.3

**Description** Mainly used to build tables that are commonly presented for bio-medical/health research, such as basic characteristic tables or descriptive statistics.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**Imports** dplyr, magrittr, tidyr, pander, utils, stats, tibble, rlang

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, testthat

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**URL** <https://github.com/lwjohnst86/carpenter>,  
<http://lwjohnst86.github.io/carpenter/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/lwjohnst86/carpenter/issues>

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Language** en-US

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Luke Johnston [aut, cre] (ORCID:  
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4169-2616>>)

**Maintainer** Luke Johnston <[lwjohnst@gmail.com](mailto:lwjohnst@gmail.com)>

**Repository** CRAN

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<code>add_rows</code>	<i>Add rows to the table with summary statistics.</i>
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**Description**

Add rows to the table with summary statistics.

**Usage**

```
add_rows(data, row_vars, stat, digits = 1)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	Output from the <code>outline_table</code> object.
<code>row_vars</code>	The variables that you want added to the table. Must be from <code>outline_table</code> .
<code>stat</code>	The summary statistic or any other function. A list of built functions can be found in <a href="#">table_stats()</a> .
<code>digits</code>	What to round the value to.

**Value**

Adds a row with summary statistics for a variable. Is a [tibble](#).

**See Also**

[carpenter\(\)](#) for a list of all functions, examples, and accessing the introduction tutorial vignette. See [table\\_stats\(\)](#) for a list of carpenter builtin statistics.

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<code>build_table</code>	<i>Build the final table.</i>
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**Description**

Output can be to common formats such as `rmarkdown`, `html`, etc, based on the `style` argument of the `pander::pander()` function.

**Usage**

```
build_table(
  data,
  caption = NULL,
  style = "rmarkdown",
  split = Inf,
  missing = "",
  alignment = "center",
  finish = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

data	The draft table object.
caption	Table caption.
style	What output style (rmarkdown, grid, simple, etc) should the table be.
split	When should the table split when it is too wide? (Inf means never).
missing	How to deal with missing values in the table (removed by default).
alignment	Table column alignment.
finish	Generate the final table in markdown formatted form.

**Value**

Creates a `pander::pander()` created table.

**See Also**

[carpenter\(\)](#) for a list of all functions, examples, and accessing the introduction tutorial vignette.

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 carpenter

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*Build common tables for your research needs!*


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**Description**

Build common tables for your research needs!

**See Also**

[add\\_rows\(\)](#) to add rows to the table, [renaming\(\)](#) for renaming of columns and rows, [build\\_table\(\)](#), [table\\_stats\(\)](#) for a list of built-in summary statistics. For a more detailed walkthrough of carpenter, see the introduction vignette using `vignette('carpenter')`.

**Examples**

```
library(magrittr)
outline_table(iris, 'Species') %>%
  add_rows(c('Sepal.Length', 'Petal.Length'), stat_meanSD) %>%
  add_rows('Sepal.Width', stat_medianIQR) %>%
  renaming('rows', function(x) gsub('Sepal\\.\\.\\. ', 'Sepal ', x)) %>%
  renaming('header', c('Measures', 'Setosa', 'Versicolor', 'Virginica')) %>%
  build_table(caption = 'A caption for the table')
```

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outline_table	<i>Make an outline of the table you want to create.</i>
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**Description**

Make an outline of the table you want to create.

**Usage**

```
outline_table(data, header = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

data	Dataset to use to create the table
header	Column or variable(s) that will make up the rows

**Value**

Dataframe ready for further carpentry work, like adding rows, summary statistics, renaming, etc.

**See Also**

[carpenter\(\)](#) for a list of all functions, examples, and accessing the introduction tutorial vignette.

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renaming	<i>Renaming row and header variables.</i>
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**Description**

Renaming row and header variables.

**Usage**

```
renaming(data, type = c("rows", "header"), replace)
```

**Arguments**

data	The table_draft object.
type	Whether to rename the row column or the headers.
replace	If type is 'row', needs to be a function (anonymous or otherwise) using the <a href="#">base::gsub()</a> function to substitute patterns, words, characters, or symbols, etc. If type is 'header', needs to be a string of equal length as the header to replace the header variables.

**Value**

Adds to the table outline to rename the rows and/or header variables in the final table.

**See Also**

[carpenter\(\)](#) for a list of all functions, examples, and accessing the introduction tutorial vignette.

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table_stats
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*Common summary statistics to use in [add\\_rows\(\)](#).*

**Description**

Common summary statistics to use in [add\\_rows\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
stat_median(x, digits = 1)
```

```
stat_iqr(x, digits = 1)
```

```
stat_medianIQR(x, digits = 1)
```

```
stat_mean(x, digits = 1)
```

```
stat_stddev(x, digits = 1)
```

```
stat_meanSD(x, digits = 1)
```

```
stat_nPct(x, digits = 0)
```

**Arguments**

x	Numeric vector to use to calculate the statistic
digits	Number of digits to use

**Value**

Create a single character string with the summary statistic

**See Also**

[carpenter\(\)](#) for a list of all functions, examples, and accessing the introduction tutorial vignette.

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