# Package 'rhino'

September 20, 2024

**Title** A Framework for Enterprise Shiny Applications

**Version** 1.10.1

**Description** A framework that supports creating and extending enterprise Shiny applications using best practices.

**URL** https://appsilon.github.io/rhino/, https://github.com/Appsilon/rhino

**BugReports** https://github.com/Appsilon/rhino/issues

**License** LGPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**Imports** box (>= 1.1.3), box.linters (>= 0.10.5), box.lsp, cli, config, fs, glue, lintr (>= 3.0.0), logger, purrr, renv, rstudioapi, sass, shiny, styler, testthat (>= 3.0.0), utils, withr, yaml

**Suggests** covr, knitr, mockery, rcmdcheck, rex, rlang, rmarkdown, shiny.react, spelling

**LazyData** true

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**Config/testthat/parallel** true

**Language** en-US

**NeedsCompilation** no

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**Date/Publication** 2024-09-20 11:50:06 UTC

# Contents



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app *Rhino application*

---

## Description

The entrypoint for a Rhino application. Your `app.R` should contain nothing but a call to `rhino::app()`.

## Usage

```
app()
```

## Details

This function is a wrapper around `shiny::shinyApp()`. It reads `rhino.yml` and performs some configuration steps (logger, static files, box modules). You can run a Rhino application in typical fashion using `shiny::runApp()`.

Rhino will load the `app/main.R` file as a box module (`box::use(app/main)`). It should export two functions which take a single `id` argument - the `ui` and `server` of your top-level Shiny module.

### Value

An object representing the app (can be passed to `shiny::runApp()`).

### Legacy entrypoint

It is possible to specify a different way to load your application using the `legacy_entrypoint` option in `rhino.yml`:

1. `app_dir`: Rhino will run the app using `shiny::shinyAppDir("app")`.
2. `source`: Rhino will `source("app/main.R")`. This file should define the top-level `ui` and `server` objects to be passed to `shinyApp()`.
3. `box_top_level`: Rhino will load `app/main.R` as a box module (as it does by default), but the exported `ui` and `server` objects will be considered as top-level.

The `legacy_entrypoint` setting is useful when migrating an existing Shiny application to Rhino. It is recommended to transform your application step by step:

1. With `app_dir` you should be able to run your application right away (just put the files in the `app` directory).
2. With `source` setting your application structure must be brought closer to Rhino, but you can still use `library()` and `source()` functions.
3. With `box_top_level` you can be confident that the whole app is properly modularized, as box modules can only load other box modules (`library()` and `source()` won't work).
4. The last step is to remove the `legacy_entrypoint` setting completely. Compared to `box_top_level` you'll need to make your top-level `ui` and `server` into a Shiny module (functions taking a single `id` argument).

### Examples

```
## Not run:
  # Your `app.R` should contain nothing but this single call:
  rhino::app()

## End(Not run)
```

---

## `build_js` *Build JavaScript*

---

### Description

Builds the `app/js/index.js` file into `app/static/js/app.min.js`. The code is transformed and bundled using Babel and webpack, so the latest JavaScript features can be used (including ECMAScript 2015 aka ES6 and newer standards). Requires Node.js to be available on the system.

### Usage

```
build_js(watch = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| watch | Keep the process running and rebuilding JS whenever source files change. |

### Details

Functions/objects defined in the global scope do not automatically become window properties, so the following JS code:

```
function sayHello() { alert('Hello!'); }
```

won't work as expected if used in R like this:

```
tags$button("Hello!", onclick = 'sayHello()');
```

Instead you should explicitly export functions:

```
export function sayHello() { alert('Hello!'); }
```

and access them via the global App object:

```
tags$button("Hello!", onclick = "App.sayHello()")
```

### Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

### Examples

```
if (interactive()) {
  # Build the `app/js/index.js` file into `app/static/js/app.min.js`.
  build_js()
}
```

---

## build_sass *Build Sass*

---

### Description

Builds the app/styles/main.scss file into app/static/css/app.min.css.

### Usage

```
build_sass(watch = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| watch | Keep the process running and rebuilding Sass whenever source files change. Only supported for sass: node configuration in rhino.yml. |

### Details

The build method can be configured using the `sass` option in `rhino.yml`:

1. `node`: Use Dart Sass (requires Node.js to be available on the system).
2. `r`: Use the `{sass}` R package.

It is recommended to use Dart Sass which is the primary, actively developed implementation of Sass. On systems without Node.js you can use the `{sass}` R package as a fallback. It is not advised however, as it uses the deprecated LibSass implementation.

### Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

### Examples

```
if (interactive()) {
  # Build the `app/styles/main.scss` file into `app/static/css/app.min.css`.
  build_sass()
}
```

---

## `dependencies` *Manage dependencies*

---

### Description

Install, remove or update the R package dependencies of your Rhino project.

### Usage

```
pkg_install(packages)

pkg_remove(packages)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `packages` | Character vector of package names. |

### Details

Use `pkg_install()` to install or update a package to the latest version. Use `pkg_remove()` to remove a package.

These functions will install or remove packages from the local `{renv}` library, and update the `dependencies.R` and `renv.lock` files accordingly, all in one step. The underlying `{renv}` functions can still be called directly for advanced use cases. See the Explanation: Renv configuration to learn about the details of the setup used by Rhino.

## Value

None. This functions are called for side effects.

## Examples

```
## Not run:
  # Install dplyr
  rhino::pkg_install("dplyr")

  # Update shiny to the latest version
  rhino::pkg_install("shiny")

  # Install a specific version of shiny
  rhino::pkg_install("shiny@1.6.0")

  # Install shiny.i18n package from GitHub
  rhino::pkg_install("Appsilon/shiny.i18n")

  # Install Biobase package from Bioconductor
  rhino::pkg_install("bioc::Biobase")

  # Install shiny from local source
  rhino::pkg_install("~/path/to/shiny")

  # Remove dplyr
  rhino::pkg_remove("dplyr")

## End(Not run)
```

---

# diagnostics *Print diagnostics*

---

## Description

Prints information which can be useful for diagnosing issues with Rhino.

## Usage

```
diagnostics()
```

## Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

## Examples

```
if (interactive()) {
  # Print diagnostic information.
  diagnostics()
}
```

## format_js *Format JavaScript*

### Description

Runs prettier on JavaScript files in `app/js` directory. Requires Node.js installed.

### Usage

```
format_js(fix = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `fix` | If `TRUE`, fixes formatting. If FALSE, reports formatting errors without fixing them. |

### Details

You can prevent prettier from formatting a given chunk of your code by adding a special comment:

```
// prettier-ignore
```

Read more about ignoring code.

### Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

## format_r *Format R*

### Description

Uses the `{styler}` and `{box.linters}` packages to automatically format R sources. As with `styler`, carefully examine the results after running this function.

### Usage

```
format_r(paths, exclude_files = NULL)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `paths` | Character vector of files and directories to format. |
| `exclude_files` | Character vector with regular expressions of files that should be excluded from styling. |

## Details

The code is formatted according to the `styler::tidyverse_style` guide with one adjustment: spacing around math operators is not modified to avoid conflicts with `box::use()` statements.

If available, `box::use()` calls are reformatted by styling functions provided by `{box.linters}`. These include:

- Separating `box::use()` calls for packages and local modules
- Alphabetically sorting packages, modules, and functions.
- Adding trailing commas

`box.linters::style_*` functions require the `treesitter` and `treesitter.r` packages. These, in turn, require R >= 4.3.0. `format_r()` will continue to operate without these but will not perform `box::use()` call styling.

For more information on `box::use()` call styling please refer to the `{box.linters}` styling functions documentation.

## Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

## Examples

```
if (interactive()) {
  # Format a single file.
  format_r("app/main.R")

  # Format all files in a directory.
  format_r("app/view")
}
```

---

`format_sass` *Format Sass*

---

## Description

Runs prettier on Sass (.scss) files in `app/styles` directory. Requires Node.js installed.

## Usage

```
format_sass(fix = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `fix` | If `TRUE`, fixes formatting. If FALSE, reports formatting errors without fixing them. |

### Details

You can prevent prettier from formatting a given chunk of your code by adding a special comment:

```
// prettier-ignore
```

Read more about ignoring code.

### Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

---

## init *Create Rhino application*

---

### Description

Generates the file structure of a Rhino application. Can be used to start a fresh project or to migrate an existing Shiny application created without Rhino.

### Usage

```
init(
  dir = ".",
  github_actions_ci = TRUE,
  rhino_version = "rhino",
  force = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `dir` | Name of the directory to create application in. |
| `github_actions_ci` | Should the GitHub Actions CI be added? |
| `rhino_version` | When using an existing `renv.lock` file, Rhino will install itself using `renv::install(rhino_version)`. You can provide this argument to use a specific version / source, e.g. `"Appsilon/rhino@v0.4.0"`. |
| `force` | Boolean; force initialization? By default, Rhino will refuse to initialize a project in the home directory. |

### Details

The recommended steps for migrating an existing Shiny application to Rhino:

1. Put all app files in the app directory, so that it can be run with `shiny::shinyAppDir("app")` (assuming all dependencies are installed).
2. If you have a list of dependencies in form of `library()` calls, put them in the `dependencies.R` file. If this file does not exist, Rhino will generate it based on `renv::dependencies("app")`.
3. If your project uses {renv}, put `renv.lock` and `renv` directory in the project root. Rhino will try to only add the necessary dependencies to your lockfile.
4. Run `rhino::init()` in the project root.

## Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

---

`lint_js` *Lint JavaScript*

---

## Description

Runs ESLint on the JavaScript sources in the `app/js` directory. Requires Node.js to be available on the system.

## Usage

```
lint_js(fix = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `fix` | Automatically fix problems. |

## Details

If your JS code uses global objects defined by other JS libraries or R packages, you'll need to let the linter know or it will complain about undefined objects. For example, the `{leaflet}` package defines a global object `L`. To access it without raising linter errors, add `/* global L */` comment in your JS code.

You don't need to define `Shiny` and `$` as these global variables are defined by default.

If you find a particular ESLint error inapplicable to your code, you can disable a specific rule for the next line of code with a comment like:

```
// eslint-disable-next-line no-restricted-syntax
```

See the ESLint documentation for full details.

## Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

## Examples

```
if (interactive()) {
  # Lint the JavaScript sources in the `app/js` directory.
  lint_js()
}
```

## lint_r *Lint R*

### Description

Uses the {lintr} package to check all R sources in the app and tests/testthat directories for style errors.

### Usage

```
lint_r(paths = NULL)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| paths | Character vector of directories and files to lint. When NULL (the default), check app and tests/testthat directories. |

### Details

The linter rules can be adjusted in the .lintr file.

You can set the maximum number of accepted style errors with the legacy_max_lint_r_errors option in rhino.yml. This can be useful when inheriting legacy code with multiple styling issues.

The box.linters::namespaced_function_calls() linter requires the {treesitter} and {treesitter.r} packages. These require R >= 4.3.0. lint_r() will continue to run and skip namespaced_function_calls() if its dependencies are not available.

### Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

## lint_sass *Lint Sass*

### Description

Runs Stylelint on the Sass sources in the app/styles directory. Requires Node.js to be available on the system.

### Usage

```
lint_sass(fix = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| fix | Automatically fix problems. |

## Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

## Examples

```
if (interactive()) {
  # Lint the Sass sources in the `app/styles` directory.
  lint_sass()
}
```

---

`log` *Logging functions*

---

## Description

Convenient way to log messages at a desired severity level.

## Usage

```
log
```

## Format

An object of class `list` of length 7.

## Details

The `log` object is a list of logging functions, in order of decreasing severity:

1. `fatal`
2. `error`
3. `warn`
4. `success`
5. `info`
6. `debug`
7. `trace`

Rhino configures logging based on settings read from the `config.yml` file in the root of your project:

1. `rhino_log_level`: The minimum severity of messages to be logged.
2. `rhino_log_file`: The file to save logs to. If `NA`, standard error stream will be used.

The default `config.yml` file uses `!expr Sys.getenv()` so that log level and file can also be configured by setting the `RHINO_LOG_LEVEL` and `RHINO_LOG_FILE` environment variables.

The functions re-exported by the `log` object are aliases for `{logger}` functions. You can also import the package and use it directly to utilize its full capabilities.

## Examples

```
## Not run:
  box::use(rhino[log])

  # Messages can be formatted using glue syntax.
  name <- "Rhino"
  log$warn("Hello {name}!")
  log$info("{1:3} + {1:3} = {2 * (1:3)}")

## End(Not run)
```

---

`react_component` *React components*

---

## Description

Declare the React components defined in your app.

## Usage

```
react_component(name)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `name` | The name of the component. |

## Details

There are three steps to add a React component to your Rhino application:

1. Define the component using JSX and register it with `Rhino.registerReactComponents()`.
2. Declare the component in R with `rhino::react_component()`.
3. Use the component in your application.

Please refer to the Tutorial: Use React in Rhino to learn about the details.

## Value

A function representing the component.

## Examples

```
# Declare the component.
TextBox <- react_component("TextBox")

# Use the component.
ui <- TextBox("Hello!", font_size = 20)
```

## rhinos *Population of rhinos*

### Description

A dataset containing population of 5 species of rhinos.

### Usage

```
rhinos
```

### Format

A data frame with 58 rows and 3 variables:

**Year** year

**Population** rhinos population

**Species** rhinos species

### Source

https://ourworldindata.org/

## test_e2e *Run Cypress end-to-end tests*

### Description

Uses Cypress to run end-to-end tests defined in the `tests/cypress` directory. Requires Node.js to be available on the system.

### Usage

```
test_e2e(interactive = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `interactive` | Should Cypress be run in the interactive mode? |

### Details

Check out: Tutorial: Write end-to-end tests with Cypress to learn how to write end-to-end tests for your Rhino app.

If you want to write end-to-end tests with `{shinytest2}`, see our How-to: Use shinytest2 guide.

## Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

## Examples

```
if (interactive()) {
  # Run the end-to-end tests in the `tests/cypress` directory.
  test_e2e()
}
```

---

`test_r` *Run R unit tests*

---

## Description

Uses the `{testhat}` package to run all unit tests in `tests/testthat` directory.

## Usage

```
test_r()
```

## Value

None. This function is called for side effects.

## Examples

```
if (interactive()) {
  # Run all unit tests in the `tests/testthat` directory.
  test_r()
}
```

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