

# Package ‘unrtf’

February 26, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Extract Text from Rich Text Format (RTF) Documents

**Version** 1.4.8

**Description** Wraps the 'unrtf' utility <<https://www.gnu.org/software/unrtf/>> to extract text from RTF files. Supports document conversion to HTML, LaTeX or plain text. Output in HTML is recommended because 'unrtf' has limited support for converting between character encodings.

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Imports** sys (>= 2.0)

**URL** <https://docs.ropensci.org/unrtf/>  
<https://ropensci.r-universe.dev/unrtf>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/ropensci/unrtf/issues>

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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**Repository** CRAN

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## Contents

unrtf . . . . .	2
<b>Index</b>	<b>3</b>

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`unrtf`*Convert rtf Documents*

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### Description

Converts an rtf document to html, text or latex. Output in html is recommended because unrtf has limited support for converting between character encodings which is problematic for non-ascii text.

### Usage

```
unrtf(  
  file = NULL,  
  format = c("html", "text", "latex"),  
  verbose = FALSE,  
  conf_dir = NULL  
)
```

### Arguments

<code>file</code>	path or url to the 'rtf' file
<code>format</code>	output format, must be "text", "html" or "latex"
<code>verbose</code>	print some output to stderr
<code>conf_dir</code>	use a custom dir with .conf files which serve as output templates.

### Details

Output can be customized via a set of .conf files which serve as templates for the various formats. The default conf files are located in `system.file("share", package = "unrtf")`. To modify the output, copy these files to a custom location and set pass the directory as the `conf_dir` argument in `unrtf`.

### Examples

```
library(unrtf)  
text <- unrtf("https://jeroen.github.io/files/sample.rtf", format = "text")  
html <- unrtf("https://jeroen.github.io/files/sample.rtf", format = "html")  
cat(text)
```

# Index

unrtf, [2](#)