

# Package ‘onetime’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Run Code Only Once

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**Description** Allows code to be run only once on a given computer, using lockfiles. Typical use cases include startup messages shown only when a package is loaded for the very first time.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

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**Imports** rappdirs, filelock

**URL** <https://github.com/hughjonesd/onetime>,  
<https://hughjonesd.github.io/onetime/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/hughjonesd/onetime/issues>

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### Description

The onetime package works by storing lockfiles in `rappdirs::user_config_dir()`. It won't do so unless permission has been granted. Before using onetime functions, package authors should call `check_ok_to_store(ask = TRUE)` in an interactive session, in functions which are called directly from the command line.

### Usage

```
check_ok_to_store(
  ask = FALSE,
  message = "The onetime package requests to store files in '%s'.",
  confirm_prompt = "Is this OK? [Yn] ",
  confirm_answers = c("Y", "y", "Yes", "yes", "YES"),
  default_answer = "Y"
)
```

### Arguments

ask	TRUE to ask the user for permission.
message	Message to display to the user.
confirm_prompt	Character string. Question to prompt the user to hide the message in future.
confirm_answers	Character vector. Answers which will cause the message to be hidden in future.
default_answer	Character string. Default answer if user simply presses return.

### Details

If your package is not used interactively, a workaround is to call `set_ok_to_store()`. This grants permission and prints an informative message. Package owners should *only* call this if they cannot ask explicitly.

`onetime_message_confirm()` is an exception: by default it doesn't require global permission to store files, since the user accepting "Don't show this again" is considered sufficient.

ask = TRUE asks the user, if he or she has not already given permission, and if the session is `interactive()`.

Remaining parameters are passed to `onetime_message_confirm()` in this case, and ignored otherwise. A "%s" in message will be replaced by the onetime storage directory.

## Value

TRUE if:

- We already have permission;
- ask is TRUE, we are in an interactive session and the user gives us permission;
- `options("onetime.dir")` is set to a non-NULL value.

Otherwise FALSE.

## Examples

```
check_ok_to_store()
```

---

onetime

*Run code only once*

---

## Description

Onetime allows package authors to run code only once (ever) for a given user. It does so by writing a file, typically to a folder in the user's configuration directory as given by `rappdirs::user_config_dir()`. The user can set an alternative filepath using `options("onetime.dir")`.

## Details

Core functions include:

- `onetime_do()` runs arbitrary code only once.
- `onetime_warning()` and friends print a warning or message only once.
- `onetime_message_confirm()` prints a message and asks "Show this message again?"
- `onetime_rlang_warn()` and `onetime_rlang_inform()` print messages using functions from the rlang package.
- `onetime_only()` returns a function that runs only once.
- `check_ok_to_store()` and `set_ok_to_store()` check for or grant permission to store lockfiles on the user's computer. It is package authors' responsibility to check for permission to store lockfiles. This may have been done already by another package if onetime was already installed. You can ask permission interactively on the command line by calling `check_ok_to_store()` with `ask = TRUE`.

For more information, see `vignette("onetime")`.

**Example:**

```
library(onetime)

ids <- paste0("onetime-readme-", 1:3)

for (i in 1:5) {
  onetime_do(cat("This command will only be run once.\n"), id = ids[1])
  onetime_warning("This warning will only be shown once.", id = ids[2])
  onetime_message("This message will only be shown once.", id = ids[3])
}

## This command will only be run once.

## Warning: This warning will only be shown once.

## This message will only be shown once.
```

**Author(s)**

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**See Also**

Useful links:

- <https://github.com/hughjonesd/onetime>
- <https://hughjonesd.github.io/onetime/>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/hughjonesd/onetime/issues>

---

onetime-rlang

*Print a warning or message only once using rlang functions*

---

**Description**

If you use these you will need to add "rlang" to your package dependencies.

**Usage**

```
onetime_rlang_warn(
  ...,
  id = deprecate_calling_package(),
  path = default_lockfile_dir(),
  expiry = NULL,
  without_permission = "warn"
)

onetime_rlang_inform(
```

```

    ...,
    id = deprecate_calling_package(),
    path = default_lockfile_dir(),
    expiry = NULL,
    without_permission = "warn"
  )

```

## Arguments

...	Passed to <code>rlang::warn()</code> or <code>rlang::inform()</code> .
id	Unique ID string. If this is unset, the name of the calling package will be used. Since onetime 0.2.0, not setting <code>id</code> is deprecated.
path	Directory to store lockfiles. The default uses a unique directory corresponding to the calling package, beneath <code>rappdirs::user_config_dir()</code> . Normally you should leave this as the default.
expiry	<code>difftime()</code> or e.g. <code>lubridate::duration()</code> object. After this length of time, code will be run again.
without_permission	Character string. What to do if the user hasn't given permission to store files? "warn" runs the action with an extra warning; "run" runs the action with no warning; "pass" does nothing and returns the default; "stop" throws an error; "ask" asks for permission using <code>check_ok_to_store()</code> , and returns the default if it is not granted.

## Value

Invisibly: TRUE if the message/warning was shown, FALSE otherwise.

## Examples

```

oo <- options(onetime.dir = tempdir(check = TRUE))
id <- sample(10000L, 1)

for (n in 1:3) {
  onetime_rlang_warn(c("rlang-style warning", i = "Extra info"), id = id)
}

onetime_reset(id = id)
options(oo)

```

---

onetime\_been\_done      *Check if a onetime call has already been made*

---

## Description

Check if a onetime call has already been made

**Usage**

```
onetime_been_done(
  id = deprecate_calling_package(),
  path = default_lockfile_dir(),
  expiry = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

id	Unique ID string. If this is unset, the name of the calling package will be used. Since onetime 0.2.0, not setting id is deprecated.
path	Directory to store lockfiles. The default uses a unique directory corresponding to the calling package, beneath <code>rappdirs::user_config_dir()</code> . Normally you should leave this as the default.
expiry	<code>difftime()</code> or e.g. <code>lubridate::duration()</code> object. After this length of time, code will be run again.

**Value**

TRUE if the call has been recorded (within the expiry time, if given).

**Examples**

```
oo <- options(onetime.dir = tempdir(check = TRUE))
id <- sample(10000L, 1)
onetime_been_done(id = id)
onetime_message("Creating an ID", id = id)
onetime_been_done(id = id)

onetime_reset(id = id)
options(oo)
```

---

onetime\_dir

*Return a path to a directory beneath the onetime base directory*


---

**Description**

By default lockfiles are stored beneath the onetime base directory, in a directory named after the calling package. You can use a different subdirectory by setting `path = onetime_dir("dirname")` in calls to onetime functions.

**Usage**

```
onetime_dir(dir)
```

**Arguments**

dir	String. Name of a single directory.
-----	-------------------------------------

**Details**

`onetime_dir()` does not autocreate the directory (but it will get created during the call to `onetime_do()`).

**Value**

The path.

**Examples**

```
onetime_dir("my-folder")
oo <- options(onetime.dir = tempdir(check = TRUE))
onetime_dir("my-folder")
options(oo)
```

---

onetime\_do

*Run code only once*

---

**Description**

When first called, `onetime_do()` evaluates an expression. It then creates a lockfile recording a unique ID which will prevent the expression being run on subsequent calls.

**Usage**

```
onetime_do(
  expr,
  id = deprecate_calling_package(),
  path = default_lockfile_dir(),
  expiry = NULL,
  default = NULL,
  without_permission = c("warn", "run", "stop", "pass", "ask")
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>expr</code>	The code to evaluate. An R statement or <code>expression()</code> object.
<code>id</code>	Unique ID string. If this is unset, the name of the calling package will be used. Since onetime 0.2.0, not setting <code>id</code> is deprecated.
<code>path</code>	Directory to store lockfiles. The default uses a unique directory corresponding to the calling package, beneath <code>rappdirs::user_config_dir()</code> . Normally you should leave this as the default.
<code>expiry</code>	<code>difftime()</code> or e.g. <code>lubridate::duration()</code> object. After this length of time, code will be run again.
<code>default</code>	Value to return if <code>expr</code> was not executed.

without\_permission

Character string. What to do if the user hasn't given permission to store files? "warn" runs the action with an extra warning; "run" runs the action with no warning; "pass" does nothing and returns the default; "stop" throws an error; "ask" asks for permission using `check_ok_to_store()`, and returns the default if it is not granted.

## Details

`onetime_do()` is the engine used by other onetime functions.

Calls are identified by `id`. If you use the same value of `id` across different calls to onetime functions, only the first call will get made.

The default path, where lockfiles are stored, is in a per-package directory beneath `rappdirs::user_config_dir()`. To use a different subdirectory within the onetime base directory, set `path = onetime_dir("dirname")`.

End users can also set `options(onetime.dir)` to change the base directory. Package authors should only set this option locally within package functions, if at all.

If the call gives an error, the lockfile is still written.

`expiry` is backward-looking. That is, `expiry` is used at check time to see if the lockfile was written after `Sys.time() - expiry`. It is not used when the lockfile is created. So, you should set `expiry` to the same value whenever you call `onetime_do()`. See the example.

## Value

`onetime_do()` invisibly returns the value of `expr`, or default if `expr` was not run because it had been run already.

## Examples

```
oo <- options(onetime.dir = tempdir(check = TRUE))
id <- sample(10000L, 1L)

for (n in 1:3) {
  onetime_do(print("printed once"), id = id)
}

# expiry is "backward-looking":
id2 <- sample(10000L, 1L)
expiry <- as.difftime(1, units = "secs")
onetime_do(print("Expires quickly, right?"), id = id2, expiry = expiry)
Sys.sleep(2)
onetime_do(print("This won't be shown..."), id = id2)
onetime_do(print("... but this will"), id = id2, expiry = expiry)

onetime_reset(id = id)
onetime_reset(id = id2)
options(oo)
```



---

onetime\_mark\_as\_done *Mark an action as done*

---

## Description

This manually marks an action as done.

## Usage

```
onetime_mark_as_done(  
  id = deprecate_calling_package(),  
  path = default_lockfile_dir()  
)
```

## Arguments

id	Unique ID string. If this is unset, the name of the calling package will be used. Since onetime 0.2.0, not setting id is deprecated.
path	Directory to store lockfiles. The default uses a unique directory corresponding to the calling package, beneath <code>rappdirs::user_config_dir()</code> . Normally you should leave this as the default.

## Details

Note that no expiry parameter is available, because expiry is backward-looking. See [onetime\\_do\(\)](#) for more information.

Marking an action done requires permission to store files on the user's computer, just like other onetime actions.

## Value

Invisible TRUE if the action represented by id had not been done before, and has now been explicitly marked as done. Invisible FALSE if it was already marked as done (and still is).

## Examples

```
oo <- options(onetime.dir = tempdir(check = TRUE))  
id <- sample(10000L, 1)  
onetime_mark_as_done(id = id)  
onetime_message("Won't be shown", id = id)  
  
onetime_reset(id = id)  
options(oo)
```

---

```
onetime_message_confirm
```

*Print a message, and ask for confirmation to hide it in future*

---

### Description

This uses `readline()` to ask the user if the message should be shown again in future.

### Usage

```
onetime_message_confirm(
    ...,
    id = deprecate_calling_package(),
    path = default_lockfile_dir(),
    expiry = NULL,
    confirm_prompt = "Show this message again? [yN] ",
    confirm_answers = c("N", "n", "No", "no"),
    default_answer = "N",
    require_permission = FALSE,
    without_permission = "warn",
    noninteractive = paste0("To hide this message in future, run:\n",
        "  onetime::onetime_mark_as_done(id = \"\", id, \"\")"),
    message = .Deprecated()
)
```

### Arguments

...	Passed to <code>message()</code> .
id	Unique ID string. If this is unset, the name of the calling package will be used. Since onetime 0.2.0, not setting id is deprecated.
path	Directory to store lockfiles. The default uses a unique directory corresponding to the calling package, beneath <code>rappdirs::user_config_dir()</code> . Normally you should leave this as the default.
expiry	<code>difftime()</code> or e.g. <code>lubridate::duration()</code> object. After this length of time, code will be run again.
confirm_prompt	Character string. Question to prompt the user to hide the message in future.
confirm_answers	Character vector. Answers which will cause the message to be hidden in future.
default_answer	Character string. Default answer if user simply presses return.
require_permission	Logical. Ask permission to store files on the user's computer, if this hasn't been granted? Setting this to FALSE overrides <code>without_permission</code> .
without_permission	Character string. What to do if the user hasn't given permission to store files? "warn" runs the action with an extra warning; "run" runs the action with no

	warning; "pass" does nothing and returns the default; "stop" throws an error; "ask" asks for permission using <code>check_ok_to_store()</code> , and returns the default if it is not granted.
noninteractive	String. Additional message to send in non-interactive sessions. Set to NULL to do nothing in non-interactive sessions. The default tells the user how to manually mark the message as done.
message	Deprecated. Use unnamed arguments . . . instead.

### Details

By default, the message will be hidden if the user answers "n", "No", or "N", or just presses return to the prompt question.

Unlike other onetime functions, `onetime_message_confirm()` doesn't by default require permission to store files on the user's computer. The assumption is that saying "Don't show this message again" counts as granting permission (just for this one message). You can ask for broader permission by setting `require_permission = TRUE` and `without_permission = "ask"`.

### Value

- NULL if the message was not shown (shown already or non-interactive session and `noninteractive` was NULL).
- TRUE if the user confirmed, i.e. chose to hide the message.
- FALSE if the message was shown but the user did not confirm (did not choose to hide the message, or non-interactive session and `noninteractive` was not NULL).

Results are returned invisibly.

Note that by default, TRUE is returned when the user answers "no" to "Show this message again?" and FALSE is returned when the user answers "yes".

### Examples

```
oo <- options(onetime.dir = tempdir(check = TRUE))
id <- sample(10000L, 1L)
onetime_message_confirm("A message to show one or more times", id = id)

onetime_reset(id = id)
options(oo)
```

---

onetime\_only

*Wrap a function to be called only once*

---

### Description

This takes a function and returns the same function wrapped by `onetime_do()`. Use it for code which should run only once, but which may be called from multiple locations. This frees you from having to use the same `id` multiple times.

**Usage**

```
onetime_only(
  .f,
  id = deprecate_calling_package(),
  path = default_lockfile_dir(),
  default = NULL,
  without_permission = "warn"
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>.f</code>	A function
<code>id</code>	Unique ID string. If this is unset, the name of the calling package will be used. Since onetime 0.2.0, not setting <code>id</code> is deprecated.
<code>path</code>	Directory to store lockfiles. The default uses a unique directory corresponding to the calling package, beneath <code>rappdirs::user_config_dir()</code> . Normally you should leave this as the default.
<code>default</code>	Value to return from <code>.f</code> if function was not executed.
<code>without_permission</code>	Character string. What to do if the user hasn't given permission to store files? "warn" runs the action with an extra warning; "run" runs the action with no warning; "pass" does nothing and returns the default; "stop" throws an error; "ask" asks for permission using <code>check_ok_to_store()</code> , and returns the default if it is not granted.

**Value**

A wrapped function. The function itself returns the result of `.f`, or `default` if the inner function was not called.

**See Also**

[onetime\\_do\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
oo <- options(onetime.dir = tempdir(check = TRUE))
id <- sample(10000L, 1)

sample_once <- onetime_only(sample, id = id)
sample_once(1:10)
sample_once(1:10)

onetime_reset(id)
options(oo)
```

---

onetime_reset	<i>Reset a onetime call by ID</i>
---------------	-----------------------------------

---

**Description**

Reset a onetime call by ID

**Usage**

```
onetime_reset(id = deprecate_calling_package(), path = default_lockfile_dir())
```

**Arguments**

id	Unique ID string. If this is unset, the name of the calling package will be used. Since onetime 0.2.0, not setting id is deprecated.
path	Directory to store lockfiles. The default uses a unique directory corresponding to the calling package, beneath <code>rappdirs::user_config_dir()</code> . Normally you should leave this as the default.

**Value**

The result of `file.remove()`, invisibly.

**Examples**

```
oo <- options(onetime.dir = tempdir(check = TRUE))
id <- sample(10000L, 1)
onetime_message("will be shown", id = id)
onetime_message("won't be shown", id = id)
onetime_reset(id = id)
onetime_message("will be shown", id = id)

onetime_reset(id = id)
options(oo)
```

---

onetime_warning	<i>Print a warning or message only once</i>
-----------------	---

---

**Description**

These functions use `onetime_do()` to print a warning or message just once.

**Usage**

```

onetime_warning(
  ...,
  id = deprecate_calling_package(),
  path = default_lockfile_dir(),
  expiry = NULL,
  without_permission = "warn"
)

onetime_message(
  ...,
  id = deprecate_calling_package(),
  path = default_lockfile_dir(),
  expiry = NULL,
  without_permission = "warn"
)

onetime_startup_message(
  ...,
  id = deprecate_calling_package(),
  path = default_lockfile_dir(),
  expiry = NULL,
  without_permission = "warn"
)

```

**Arguments**

...	Passed to <a href="#">warning()</a> , <a href="#">message()</a> or <a href="#">packageStartupMessage()</a> .
id	Unique ID string. If this is unset, the name of the calling package will be used. Since onetime 0.2.0, not setting id is deprecated.
path	Directory to store lockfiles. The default uses a unique directory corresponding to the calling package, beneath <a href="#">rapdirs::user_config_dir()</a> . Normally you should leave this as the default.
expiry	<a href="#">difftime()</a> or e.g. <a href="#">lubridate::duration()</a> object. After this length of time, code will be run again.
without_permission	Character string. What to do if the user hasn't given permission to store files? "warn" runs the action with an extra warning; "run" runs the action with no warning; "pass" does nothing and returns the default; "stop" throws an error; "ask" asks for permission using <a href="#">check_ok_to_store()</a> , and returns the default if it is not granted.

**Value**

Invisible TRUE if the message/warning was shown, invisible FALSE otherwise.

**See Also**[onetime\\_do\(\)](#)**Examples**

```
oo <- options(onetime.dir = tempdir(check = TRUE))
id <- sample(10000L, 1)

for (n in 1:3) {
  onetime_warning("will be shown once", id = id)
}

onetime_reset(id = id)
options(oo)
```

---

`set_ok_to_store`*Grant or revoke permission to store lockfiles on the user's computer*

---

**Description**

End users may use this from the command line. Package authors should *only* call it if they cannot ask for permission interactively using `check_ok_to_store(ask = TRUE)`.

**Usage**

```
set_ok_to_store(ok = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

`ok` TRUE to grant permission to store lockfiles, FALSE to revoke it and unset `options("onetime.dir")`.

**Value**

Invisible NULL.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
set_ok_to_store()

## End(Not run)
```

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