

# Package: vecrep (via r-universe)

June 19, 2026

**Title** Compact Vector Replication

**Version** 0.1.0.9000

**Description** Replicates vectors using ALTREP (Alternative Representations for R Objects), avoiding unnecessary memory allocation. When a vector is repeated many times, only a reference to the original data is stored rather than copying the full expanded replicates into memory. The expanded data is only materialised if it is modified, making repeated vectors cheap to create and pass around. This is particularly useful when working with large repeated sequences, such as replicated index vectors, simulation inputs, or repeated reference values in data pipelines.

**Depends** R (>= 3.5)

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**URL** <https://pkg.mitchelloharawild.com/vecrep/>,  
<https://github.com/mitchelloharawild/vecrep>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/mitchelloharawild/vecrep/issues>

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**Language** en-GB

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**ByteCompile** yes

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**Repository** <https://mitchelloharawild.r-universe.dev>

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rep_altrep	<i>Repeat a vector using ALTREP</i>
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### Description

Creates a repeated vector backed by an ALTREP representation, avoiding materialisation of the full vector in memory until necessary.

### Usage

```
rep_altrep(x, times = 1L, each = 1L)
```

### Arguments

x	A vector to repeat. Must be one of: double, integer, logical, complex, raw, character, or list (including classed variants thereof).
times	A single positive integer giving the number of times to repeat the whole (each-expanded) pattern. Defaults to 1L.
each	A single positive integer giving the number of times each element is repeated before moving to the next. Defaults to 1L.

### Details

Supported types: double, integer, logical, complex, raw, character, and list. Classed vectors (e.g. factor, Date, POSIXct) are handled transparently: the class attribute is preserved on the returned object so S3 dispatch continues to work without forcing materialisation.

times and each can be combined freely, matching the behaviour of `base::rep()`: each replicates individual elements first, then times repeats the resulting pattern. Providing only times is equivalent to `rep(x, times = times)`; providing only each is equivalent to `rep(x, each = each)`.

### Value

An ALTREP vector of the same type and class as x, with length `length(x) * each * times`.

### Examples

```
rep_altrep(letters[1:4], times = 2)
rep_altrep(letters[1:4], each = 2)
rep_altrep(letters[1:4], times = 2, each = 3)
rep_altrep(1L:4L, each = 2L)
rep_altrep(c(TRUE, FALSE, NA), each = 2L, times = 3L)
rep_altrep(factor(c("a", "b", "c")), each = 2L)
```

```
rep_altrep(as.Date("2024-01-01") + 0:2, each = 2L)  
rep_altrep(c("foo", "bar"), times = 5L)  
rep_altrep(list(1, "a", TRUE), each = 2L, times = 2L)
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