

# Package ‘ggalttext’

June 25, 2026

**Title** Make 'ggplot2' Fully Accessible by Generating Alternative Text

**Version** 0.3.0

**Description** Generates concise alternative text for data visualizations created with 'ggplot2'. Descriptions are produced by inspecting plot layers, labels, scales, and facets, with support for multiple languages and alternative text stored in plot metadata.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**Imports** ggplot2, knitr

**Suggests** babynames, ggtext, dplyr, patchwork, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Joseph Barbier [aut, cre, cph]

**Maintainer** Joseph Barbier <joseph@sunflower.com>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2026-06-25 11:50:12 UTC

## Contents

enable_auto_alt_text . . . . .	2
generate_alt_text . . . . .	2
<b>Index</b>	<b>4</b>

---

`enable_auto_alt_text` *Add alt text to Quarto figures*

---

### Description

Call this function once at the top of your Quarto document to include an alternative text for all of your ggplot2 charts.

### Usage

```
enable_auto_alt_text(...)
```

### Arguments

... Arguments passed to `generate_alt_text()`.

### Value

NULL, invisibly

---

`generate_alt_text` *Generate alternative text from a ggplot2 object*

---

### Description

`generate_alt_text()` takes any ggplot2 object and generates a string that describes what contains the chart.

The description isn't meant to exactly describe the chart, nor how it was made. Instead, it tries to be short and gives an overview of what's inside the chart such as:

- the kind of chart(s)
- the number of chart(s) for facets
- the title
- ...

The text can be generated in: English (default), French or German.

Learn more: <https://www.section508.gov/create/alternative-text/>

**Usage**

```
generate_alt_text(  
  p,  
  ...,  
  lang = c("en", "fr", "de"),  
  include_title = TRUE,  
  max_chars = 125,  
  error_on_excess = FALSE,  
  source = c("default", "auto", "origin")  
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>p</code>	A ggplot object.
<code>...</code>	Must be empty. This argument requires all arguments after <code>p</code> to be named.
<code>lang</code>	Language used for generated text. Defaults to "en" (English). Supported values are "en", "fr" (French), and "de" (German).
<code>include_title</code>	Whether to include the title of the plot, if any, in the alternative text. This is mostly useful to reduce the length of the text.
<code>max_chars</code>	The maximum number of characters allowed (default to 125 as recommended by most references). If above, it will raise a warning. If <code>error_on_excess = TRUE</code> , then it will raise an error.
<code>error_on_excess</code>	Whether to raise an error when the number of characters of the alt text is above <code>max_chars</code> . If <code>FALSE</code> , it will raise a warning.
<code>source</code>	Method used to select alt text. Since ggplot2 objects can include built-in alt text (via <code>labs(alt = "Here goes the text")</code> ), choose whether to use that text or the one generated by <code>ggalttext</code> . - "default": always generate alt text with <code>ggalttext</code> . - "auto": use existing alt text when it is non-empty; otherwise generate alt text with <code>ggalttext</code> . - "origin": always return <code>ggplot2::get_alt_text(p)</code> as-is.

**Value**

A string

# Index

`enable_auto_alt_text`, [2](#)

`generate_alt_text`, [2](#)

`generate_alt_text()`, [2](#)