

# Package ‘HGNCHELPER’

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**Depends** R (>= 4.1.0), methods, utils

**Version** 0.8.15

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**License** GPL (>= 2.0)

**Title** Identify and Correct Invalid HGNC Human Gene Symbols and MGI  
Mouse Gene Symbols

**Description** Contains functions for  
identifying and correcting HGNC human gene symbols and MGI mouse gene symbols  
which have been converted to date format by Excel, withdrawn, or aliased.  
Also contains functions for reversibly converting between HGNC  
symbols and valid R names.

**URL** <https://github.com/waldronlab/HGNCHELPER>,  
<https://waldronlab.io/HGNCHELPER/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/waldronlab/HGNCHELPER/issues>

**LazyData** TRUE

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Imports** splitstackshape

**Suggests** testthat, knitr, rmarkdown, markdown

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** no

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affyToR	<i>Title function to convert Affymetrix probeset identifiers to valid R names</i>
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### Description

This function simply prepends "affy." to the probeset IDs to create valid R names. Reverse operation is done by the [rToAffy](#) function.

### Usage

```
affyToR(x)
```

### Arguments

x	vector of Affymetrix probeset identifiers, or any identifier which may with a digit.
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### Value

a character vector that is simply x with "affy." prepended to each value.

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checkGeneSymbols	<i>Identify outdated or Excel-mogrified gene symbols</i>
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### Description

This function identifies gene symbols which are outdated or may have been mogrified by Excel or other spreadsheet programs. If output is assigned to a variable, it returns a data.frame of the same number of rows as the input, with a second column indicating whether the symbols are valid and a third column with a corrected gene list.

**Usage**

```
checkGeneSymbols(
  x,
  chromosome = NULL,
  unmapped.as.na = TRUE,
  map = NULL,
  species = "human",
  expand.ambiguous = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	A character vector of gene symbols to check for modified or outdated values
<code>chromosome</code>	An optional integer vector containing the chromosome number of each gene provided through the argument <code>x</code> . It should be the same length as the input for <code>x</code> . Currently, this argument is implemented only for human gene cases.
<code>unmapped.as.na</code>	If TRUE (default), unmapped symbols will appear as NA in the <code>Suggested.Symbol</code> column. If FALSE, the original unmapped symbol will be kept.
<code>map</code>	Specify if you do not want to use the default maps provided by setting <code>species</code> equal to "mouse" or "human". Map can be any other data.frame with colnames identical to <code>c("Symbol", "Approved.Symbol")</code> . The default maps can be updated by running the interactive example below.
<code>species</code>	A character vector of length 1, either "human" (default) or "mouse". If NULL, or anything other than "human" or "mouse", then the <code>map</code> argument must be provided.
<code>expand.ambiguous</code>	If FALSE (default), genes with multiple mapping will only map to its approved symbol as the correct one. If TRUE, genes with multiple/ambiguous mapping will map to all the symbols linked to it.

**Value**

The function will return a data.frame of the same number of rows as the input, with corrections possible from `map`.

**See Also**

[mouse.table](#) for the mouse lookup table, [hgnc.table](#) for the human lookup table

**Examples**

```
library(HGNChelper)

## Human
human <- c("FN1", "TP53", "UNKNOWNGENE", "7-Sep", "9/7", "1-Mar", "Oct4", "4-Oct",
          "OCT4-PG4", "C19ORF71", "C19orf71")
checkGeneSymbols(human)
```

```

## Mouse
mouse <- c("1-Feb", "Pzp", "A2m")
checkGeneSymbols(mouse, species="mouse")

## expand.ambiguous

## Human
human <- "AAVS1"
checkGeneSymbols(human, expand.ambiguous=FALSE)
checkGeneSymbols(human, expand.ambiguous=TRUE)

## Mouse
mouse <- c("Cpamd8", "Mug2")
checkGeneSymbols(mouse, species = "mouse", expand.ambiguous = FALSE)
checkGeneSymbols(mouse, species = "mouse", expand.ambiguous = TRUE)

## Updating the map
if (interactive()) {
  currentHumanMap <- getCurrentHumanMap()
  checkGeneSymbols(human, map=currentHumanMap)

  # You should save this if you are going to use it multiple times,
  # then load it from file rather than burdening HGNC's servers.
  save(hgnc.table, file="hgnc.table.rda", compress="bzip2")
  load("hgnc.table.rda")
  checkGeneSymbols(human, map=hgnc.table)
}

```

---

findExcelGeneSymbols *Title function to identify Excel-mogrified gene symbols*

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## Description

This function identifies gene symbols which may have been mogrified by Excel or other spreadsheet programs. If output is assigned to a variable, it returns a vector of the same length where symbols which could be mapped have been mapped.

## Usage

```

findExcelGeneSymbols(
  x,
  mog.map = read.csv(system.file("extdata/mog_map.csv", package = "HGNCHELPER"), as.is =
    TRUE),
  regex = "impossible to match^"
)

```

**Arguments**

x	Vector of gene symbols to check for mognified values
mog.map	Map of known mognifications. This should be a dataframe with two columns: original and mognified, containing the correct and incorrect symbols, respectively.
regex	Regular expression, recognized by the base::grep function which is called with ignore.case=TRUE, to identify mognified symbols. The default regex will not match anything. The regex in the examples is an attempt to match all Excel-mognified HGNC human gene symbols. It is not necessary for all matches to have a corresponding entry in mog.map\$mognified; values in x which are matched by this regex but are not found in mog.map\$mognified simply will not be corrected.

**Value**

if the return value of the function is assigned to a variable, the function will return a vector of the same length as the input, with corrections possible from mog.map made.

**Examples**

```
## Available maps from this package:
human <- read.csv(system.file("extdata/mog_map.csv",
                             package = "HGNCHELPER"), as.is=TRUE)
mouse <- read.csv(system.file("extdata/HGNCHELPER_mog_map_MGI_AMC_2016_03_30.csv",
                              package = "HGNCHELPER"), as.is=TRUE)
## This regex is based that provided by Zeeberg et al.,
## Mistaken Identifiers: Gene name errors can be introduced
## inadvertently when using Excel in bioinformatics. BMC
## Bioinformatics 2004, 5:80.
re <- "[0-9]\\-(JAN|FEB|MAR|APR|MAY|JUN|JUL|AUG|SEP|OCT|NOV|DEC)|[0-9]\\.[0-9][0-9]E\\+|[0-9][0-9]"
findExcelGeneSymbols(c("2-Apr", "APR2"), mog.map=human, regex=re)
findExcelGeneSymbols(c("1-Feb", "Feb1"), mog.map=mouse)
```

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getCurrentMaps

*Get the current maps for correcting gene symbols*

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**Description**

Valid human and mouse gene symbols can be updated frequently. Use these functions to get the most current lists of valid symbols, which you can then use as an input to the map argument of checkGeneSymbols. Make sure to change the default species="human" argument to checkGeneSymbols if you are doing this for mouse. Use getCurrentHumanMap for HGNC human gene symbols from <https://www.genenames.org/> and getCurrentMouseMap for MGI mouse gene symbols from [https://www.informatics.jax.org/downloads/reports/MGI\\_EntrezGene.rpt](https://www.informatics.jax.org/downloads/reports/MGI_EntrezGene.rpt).

**Usage**

```
getCurrentHumanMap()
getCurrentMouseMap()
```

**Value**

A data.frame that can be used for map argument of checkGeneSymbols function

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
## human
new.hgnc.table <- getCurrentHumanMap()
checkGeneSymbols(c("3-Oct", "10-3", "tp53"), map=new.hgnc.table)

## mouse
new.mouse.table <- getCurrentMouseMap()
## Set species to NULL or "mouse"
checkGeneSymbols(c("Gm46568", "1-Feb"), map=new.mouse.table, species="mouse")

## End(Not run)
```

---

hgnc.table	<i>All current and withdrawn HGNC gene symbols and Excel-mogrified symbols</i>
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---

**Description**

A data.frame with the first column providing a gene symbol or known alias (including withdrawn symbols), second column providing the approved HGNC human gene symbol.

- Symbol: All valid, Excel-mogrified, and withdrawn symbols
- Approved.Symbol: Approved symbols

**Usage**

```
hgnc.table
```

**Format**

An object of class data.table (inherits from data.frame) with 103939 rows and 3 columns.

**Source**

Extracted from [https://storage.googleapis.com/public-download-files/hgnc/tsv/tsv/hgnc\\_complete\\_set.txt](https://storage.googleapis.com/public-download-files/hgnc/tsv/tsv/hgnc_complete_set.txt) and system.file("extdata/mog\_map.csv", package="HGNChelper")

## Examples

```
data("hgnc.table", package="HGNCHELPER")
head(hgnc.table)
```

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mouse.table	<i>All current and withdrawn MGI mouse symbols and Excel-mogrified symbols</i>
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## Description

A data.frame with the first column providing a gene symbol or known alias (including withdrawn symbols), second column providing the approved MGI mouse gene symbol.

- Symbol: All valid, Excel-mogrified, and withdrawn symbols
- Approved.Symbol: Approved symbols

## Usage

```
mouse.table
```

## Format

An object of class data.frame with 790110 rows and 2 columns.

## Source

Extracted from [http://www.informatics.jax.org/downloads/reports/MGI\\_EntrezGene.rpt](http://www.informatics.jax.org/downloads/reports/MGI_EntrezGene.rpt) and system.file("extdata/HGNCHELPER\_mog\_map\_MGI\_AMC\_2016\_03\_30.csv", package="HGNCHELPER")

## Examples

```
data("mouse.table", package="HGNCHELPER")
head(mouse.table)
```

rToAffy

*Title function to convert the output of affyToR back to the original Affymetrix probeset identifiers.*

---

**Description**

This function simply strips the "affy." added by the [affyToR](#) function.

**Usage**

```
rToAffy(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    the character vector returned by the [affyToR](#) function.

**Value**

a character vector of Affymetrix probeset identifiers.

---

rToSymbol

*Title function to reverse the conversion made by symbolToR*

---

**Description**

This function reverses the actions of the [symbolToR](#) function.

**Usage**

```
rToSymbol(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    the character vector returned by the [symbolToR](#) function.

**Value**

a character vector of HGNC gene symbols, which are not in general valid R names.

**See Also**

[symbolToR](#)



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symbolToR	<i>Title function to *reversibly* convert HGNC gene symbols to valid R names.</i>
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**Description**

This function reversibly converts HGNC gene symbols to valid R names by prepending "symbol.", and making the following substitutions: "-" to "hyphen", "@" to "ampersand", and "/" to "forward-slash".

**Usage**

```
symbolToR(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                      vector of HGNC symbols

**Value**

a vector of valid R names, of the same length as x, which can be converted to the same HGNC symbols using the rToSymbol function.

**See Also**

[rToSymbol](#)

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