## Package 'cowsay'

July 22, 2025

```
Title Messages, Warnings, Strings with Ascii Animals
Description Allows printing of character strings as messages/warnings/etc.
     with ASCII animals, including cats, cows, frogs, chickens, ghosts,
     and more.
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License MIT + file LICENSE
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2 animals

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## Description

Named vector of animals

#### **Details**

animals is a named character vector of animals, with each element a character string of variable length specifying an ASCII animal. Note that some have unicode characters that won't play well on some operating systems.

#### **Examples**

```
animals
cat(animal_fetch('cow'))
cat(animal_fetch('chicken'))
cat(animal_fetch('chuck'))
cat(animal_fetch('clippy'))
cat(animal_fetch('poop'))
cat(animal_fetch('bigcat'))
```

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 $\verb"animal_fetch"$ 

Fetch an animal

## Description

Fetch an animal

#### Usage

```
animal_fetch(by)
```

#### **Arguments**

by

(character) which animal to get

#### Value

single string

## **Examples**

```
animal_fetch("longtailcat")
cat(animal_fetch("longtailcat"))
animal_fetch("poop")
cat(animal_fetch("poop"))
```

bubble\_say

Thought/speech bubble/balloon

## Description

Thought/speech bubble/balloon

## Usage

```
bubble_say(x, width = 60)
bubble_think(x, width = 60)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x (character) a character vector
```

width (integer/numeric) width of each line. default: 60

4 bubble\_tail

#### **Details**

bubble\_say gives the traditional bubble that you get when you run cowsay on the command line, with carrots or slashes for the sides, while bubble\_think gives a slightly different bubble with parens for the sides

#### Value

character vector of length greater than the input x

#### Note

```
modified from https://github.com/schochastics/startifyR
```

#### See Also

```
Other bubble: bubble_tail()
```

#### **Examples**

```
library(fortunes)
quote <- as.character(fortune())
bubble_say(x = quote)

cat(bubble_say(paste(quote, collapse = " ")), sep = "\n")
ch <- animal_fetch('chicken')
z <- paste(c(bubble_say(quote), bubble_tail(ch, "\\"), ch), collapse = "\n")
cat(z)

text_color <- sample(grDevices::colors(), 1)
text_style <- crayon::make_style(text_color)
text_style(bubble_say(quote))</pre>
```

bubble\_tail

Make the tail part of a thought bubble

#### **Description**

Make the tail part of a thought bubble

#### Usage

```
bubble_tail(animal, thought_sym = "o")
bubble_tail2(max_char_length, thought_sym = "o")
```

endless\_horse 5

## **Arguments**

#### **Details**

bubble\_tail uses the animal as input so that the tail is put close to the top of the animal, whereas bubble\_tail2 just puts the tail about a 1/3 of the way from the left most character given the max character length

#### See Also

```
Other bubble: bubble_say()
```

#### **Examples**

```
bubble_tail(animal_fetch('chicken'))
cat(bubble_tail(animal_fetch('chicken')), sep = "\n")
cat(bubble_tail(animal_fetch('chicken')), sep = "\n")
cat(bubble_tail(animal_fetch('chicken'), "%"), sep = "\n")
bubble_tail2(59)
cat(bubble_tail2(59), sep = "\n")
cat(bubble_tail2(11), sep = "\n")
cat(bubble_tail2(11, "%"), sep = "\n")
```

 ${\tt endless\_horse}$ 

Endless horse

#### **Description**

Each time you press enter, the horse keeps going...and going...

#### Usage

```
endless_horse(
  what = "Hello world!",
  endless = TRUE,
  wait = 0.5,
  what_color = NULL,
  horse_color = NULL)
```

## Arguments

what (character) What do you want to say? See details.

endless (logical) Should horse be endless, you better say yes. Default: TRUE

How long to wait between leg segments (time grows geometrically after the first iteration in order to keep the horse on screen for a while, but it will keep going forever. Or until you hit escape/Ctrl-C depending on your platform).

what\_color (character or crayon function) A crayon-suported text color or crayon style function to color what. You might try colors() or ?rgb for ideas.

horse\_color (character or crayon function) A crayon-suported text color or crayon style

(character or crayon function) A crayon-suported text color or crayon style function to color your steed.

## Examples

```
endless_horse(endless = FALSE)
endless_horse()
endless_horse(what_color = crayon::bgBlue)
```

say

Sling messages and warnings with flair

#### Description

Sling messages and warnings with flair

#### Usage

```
say(
 what = "Hello world!",
 by = "cow",
  type = NULL,
 what_color = NULL,
 by_color = what_color,
 length = 18,
  fortune = NULL,
 width = 60,
)
think(
 what = "Hello world!",
 by = "cow",
  type = NULL,
 what_color = NULL,
 by_color = what_color,
```

```
length = 18,
fortune = NULL,
width = 60,
...
)
```

## **Arguments**

what (character) What do you want to say? See Details.

by (character) Who should say or think it? One of: alligator, ant, anxiouscat, bat,

bat2, beavis, behindcat, bigcat, blowfish, buffalo, cat, chicken, chuck, clippy, cow, cow\_borg, cow\_dead, cow\_greedy, cow\_sleepy, cow\_tired, cow\_wired, cow\_young, daemon, dragon, duck, duckling, egret, endlesshorse, facecat, fish, frog, ghost, goldfish, grumpycat, hypnotoad, longcat, longtailcat, monkey, mushroom, owl, pig, poop, pumpkin, rabbit, rms, shark, shortcat, signbunny, smallcat, snowman, spider, squirrel, squirrel2, stegosaurus, stretchycat, trilobite, turkey, whale, wolf, yoda. Alternatively, use 'random' to have your message spoken by a random character. We use rlang::arg\_match() internally, which does not support partial matching, so you'll get an informative error upon a partial

match.

type (character) One of message (default), warning, print (default in non-interactive

mode), or string (returns string). If run in non-interactive mode default type is print, so that output goes to stdout rather than stderr, where messages and

warnings go.

what\_color (character or crayon function) One or more crayon-suported text color(s) or

crayon style function to color what. You might try colors() or ?rgb for ideas. Use "rainbow" for c("red", "orange", "yellow", "green", "blue", "purple").

ideas. Ose fambow for et a, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple).

(character or crayon function) One or more crayon-suported text color(s) or crayon style function to color who. Use "rainbow" for c("red", "orange", "yellow", "green", "blue", "purple"). By default is set to be whatever

color what\_color is so you can have the same color for both with less typing.

length (integer) Length of longcat. Ignored if other animals used.

for tune An integer (or number that can be coerced to integer) specifying a fortune from

the fortunes package - OR a string which is used as a pattern passed to grep() (and a random one is selected upton multiple matches). Passed on to the which

parameter of fortunes::fortune

width (integer/numeric) width of each line. default: 60

... Further args passed on to fortunes::fortune()

#### what

by\_color

You can put in any phrase you like to the what parameter, OR you can type in one of a few special phrases that do particular things. They are:

- "catfact": A random cat fact from https://catfact.ninja
- "fortune": A random quote from an R coder, from fortunes library

- "time": Print the current time
- "rms": Prints a random 'fact' about Richard Stallman from the rmsfact::rmsfact() package. Best paired with by = "rms".

by

Note that if you choose by='hypnotoad' the quote is forced to be, as you could imagine, 'All Glory to the HYPNO TOAD!'. For reference see http://knowyourmeme.com/memes/hypnotoad

signbunny: It's not for sure known who invented signbunny, but this article http://www.vox.com/2014/9/18/6331753/signbunny-meme-explained thinks they found the first use in this tweet: https://twitter.com/wei\_bluebear/status/32910164578077

trilobite: from http://www.retrojunkie.com/asciiart/animals/dinos.htm (site down though)

Note to Windows users: there are some animals (shortcat, longcat, fish, signbunny, stretchycat, anxiouscat, longtailcat, grumpycat, mushroom) that are not available because they use non-ASCII characters that don't display properly in R on Windows.

#### **Examples**

```
say()
say("what")
say("time")
say("who you callin chicken", "chicken")
say("ain't that some shit", "poop")
say("icanhazpdf?", "cat")
say("boo!", "pumpkin")
say("hot diggity", "frog")
# Vary type of output, default calls message()
say("hell no!")
say("hell no!", type = "warning")
say("hell no!", type = "string")
# The hypnotoad
say(by = "hypnotoad")
# Trilobite
say(by = "trilobite")
say("Q: What do you call a solitary shark\nA: A lone shark", by = "shark")
say("Q: What do you call a single buffalo?\nA: A buffalonely", by = "buffalo")
# Using fortunes
library(fortunes)
say(what = "fortune")
## you don't have to pass anything to the `what` parameter if `fortune` is
## not null
```

```
say("fortune", "spider")
say("fortune", "facecat")
say("fortune", "behindcat")
say("fortune", "smallcat")
say("fortune", "monkey")
say("fortune", "egret")
say(fortune = 100)
say(fortune = "whatever")
say(fortune = 7)
say(fortune = 45)
# Clippy
say(fortune = 59, by = "clippy")

library(rmsfact)
say("rms", "rms")

# Using the catfacts API
library(jsonlite)
say("catfact", "cat")
```

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