Coding Assistance for REST Development

Besides the common Web services support, IntelliJ IDEA provides the following facilities for developing RESTful Web services:

- Generating a sample Web service and deploying it locally
- Code completion for MIME type.
- Code inspections and quick fixes.
- REST Client tool window for testing RESTful Web services.

Generating a Sample Web Service

When you create a module for developing a RESTful WebService, you can have sample code of the server side generated. IntelliJ IDEA creates a package with a `HelloWorld` class that has the following methods:

- The `main()` method that creates an instance of a local HTTP server and starts it.
- The `getClichedMessage()` method that returns a cliched message. The method is supplied with the `@Path`, `@GET`, and `@Produces` annotations.

Use this class as an example or populate it as necessary to develop and test your RESTful Web service. To start the sample Web service, choose **Run | Run** or press `Shift+F10`. IntelliJ IDEA creates a local HTTP server, starts it, whereupon deploys and runs the Web service.

Code inspection and quick fixes

IntelliJ IDEA supports code inspections and suggests quick fixes in the following cases:

Issue	Default Quick Fix
Inconsistency between a method annotation and the method return type: a `@GET` annotated method of the void return type.	Change to String.
Inconsistency between the class type and the type of a method within the class: a non-resource class contains resource methods.	Remove `@GET`, `@POST`, `@PUT`, or `@DELETE` annotation from the method declaration.
A Root Resource Class does not contain resource methods.	Remove `@Path` annotation.
Different Root Resource Classes have the same `@Path` annotation.	Remove `@Path` annotation.
A `@Consumes` or a `@Produces` annotation uses a wrong MIME type.	Change to */*.

Rest client tool window

Dedicated REST Client tool window supports:

- Constituting URL addresses semiautomatically from the specified Deployment point and the `@Path` annotation.
- Submitting requests to the server.
- Displaying server responses in the **Response** tab.
- Code integration between the Java code and the contents of the **REST Client** window controls.

Change in the Java code	Change in the REST Client tool window
@Path annotation is updated.	The contents of the **Path to resource** drop-down list change.
@Produces annotation is updated.	The contents of the **Accept** drop-down list change.

See Also

Procedures:

- RESTful WebServices
- Web Services

Web Resources:

- Developer Community ⊡