CoffeeScript Support

IntelliJ IDEA provides CoffeeScript support. IntelliJ IDEA recognizes `*.coffee` files, and allows you to edit them providing full range of coding assistance without any additional steps from your side. CoffeeScript files are marked with icon.

To run, debug, and test your code you will need it translated into JavaScript which requires a *transpiler* and *Node.js*. For more details on CoffeeScript transpilation, see Transpiling CoffeeScript to JavaScript.

In this section:

- CoffeeScript Support
  - Preparing for CoffeeScript development
  - Coding Assistance
- Transpiling CoffeeScript to JavaScript
- Running CoffeeScript
- Debugging CoffeeScript

Preparing for CoffeeScript development

1. Make sure the *CoffeeScript* and *Node.js* plugins are *installed* and *enabled*.

   These plugins are not bundled with IntelliJ IDEA, but they are available from the JetBrains plugin repository. Once enabled, the plugins are available at the IDE level, that is, you can use them in all your IntelliJ IDEA projects. See Enabling and Disabling Plugins for details.

2. Download and install the Node.js framework.
3. Configure the Node.js interpreter in IntelliJ IDEA:
   1. Choose **File | Settings** and in the **Settings** dialog box that opens, click **Node.js and NPM**.
   2. On the Node.js page that opens, specify the location of the desired Node.js interpreter.

Coding assistance

CoffeeScript support includes:

- Code completion for keywords, labels, variables, parameters and functions.
- Error and syntax highlighting.
- Code formatting and folding.
- Refactoring:
  - Common refactoring procedures, such as *extract method* , *inline*, *rename/move*, etc.
  - CoffeeScript-specific refactoring procedures, such as *change signature*, *extract parameter*, *extract variable*. These types of refactoring are identical with JavaScript, for more details, see the section JavaScript-Specific Refactorings
- Code generation
  - Generating code stubs based on file templates during file creation.
  - Ability to create line and block comments (`Ctrl+Slash` or `Ctrl+NumPad /`/`Ctrl+Shift+Slash` or `Ctrl+Shift+NumPad /`).

- Navigation through source code
  - Navigating with Structure View.
  - **Navigate | Declaration** (`Ctrl+B`, `Ctrl+Button1 Click` or `Button2 Click`).
  - **Navigate | Implementation** (`Ctrl+Alt+B` or `Ctrl+Alt+Button1 Click`) from overridden method / subclassed class.
- Compiling to JavaScript for further running, testing, and debugging.
- Executing CoffeeScript files involves:
  - Ability to preview results of CoffeeScript files compilation to JavaScript.
  - Ability to launch CoffeeScript files from the context menu.
  - Run/debug configuration for NodeJS includes the ability to use CoffeeScript plugin.

See Also

Language and Framework-Specific Guidelines:

- JavaScript-Specific Guidelines
- Node.js

External Links:

- http://coffeescript.org/
- http://devnet.jetbrains.com/docs/DOC-1160

Web Resources:

- Developer Community