


# Compiler: ActionScript & Flex Compiler

File | Settings | Compiler | Flex Compiler

Use the **Compiler > Flex Compiler** page to select the Flex compiler for your project and to specify the associated settings.

Item	Description
Compile with	<p>Select which of the available Flex compilers should be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="443 443 1401 510">■ <b>Built-in compiler shell.</b> An IntelliJ IDEA compiler shell which uses the Flex SDK compiler API.  This compiler shell can perform incremental compilations. As a multithreaded shell, it is capable of running a number of compilations simultaneously, in parallel.</li><li data-bbox="443 656 1374 801">■ <b>Mxmlc/compc.</b> The <a href="#">mxmlc</a> / <a href="#">compc</a> compiler available in Flex SDK.  This compiler cannot compile incrementally. However, it can run several independent compilation processes simultaneously which significantly improves the compilation performance.</li></ul> <p>Whichever of the compiler options you use, IntelliJ IDEA keeps track of the modules where nothing has changed since the previous compilation. Consequently, the SWF and SWC files that are up-to-date are not compiled.</p>
Prefer ActionScript Compiler 2.0 for pure ActionScript build configurations	<p>If this check box is selected, the ActionScript Compiler 2.0 (ASC 2.0) is used for <a href="#">pure ActionScript build configurations</a>.</p>
Parallel compilation with up to <this_many> threads or processes	<p>Specify the maximum number of compilation threads (for the built-in compiler shell) or processes (for the mxmlc/compc compiler) to run simultaneously.</p>
Compiler heap size	<p>Specify the maximum heap size available to the process that launches the compiler.</p> <p>The default 512 Mb is suitable for most of the purposes. However, the built-in compiler shell, as a single-process compiler, may require more memory for large projects.</p>

Item	Description
VM options	<p>If necessary, type the string to be passed to the VM when IntelliJ IDEA launches the compiler.</p> <p>If you need more room to type, click  next to the field to access the <b>Flex Compiler VM options</b> dialog where the text entry area is larger.</p> <p>When specifying the options, follow these rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Use spaces to separate individual options, for example, <code>-client -ea -Xmx1024m</code>.</li><li>■ If an option includes spaces, enclose the spaces or the argument that contains the spaces in double quotes, for example, <code>some" "arg</code> or <code>"some arg"</code>.</li><li>■ If an option includes double quotes (e.g. as part of the argument), escape the double quotes by means of the backslashes, for example, <code>-Dmy.prop=\"quoted_value\"</code>.</li></ul>

## See Also

### Procedures:

- [Preparing for ActionScript or Flex Application Development](#)

### Language and Framework-Specific Guidelines:

- [ActionScript and Flex](#)

### External Links:

- [Flex](#)

### Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#)