Creating and Registering File Types

You can create custom file types to enable parsing these files in the editor by defining highlighting schemes for keywords, comments, numbers, etc. To enable IntelliJ IDEA to decide how to treat a file, you need to associate each file type with relevant extensions.

To create a new file type

1. Open the *IDE Settings* by choosing **File | Settings | IDE Settings** . Then select **File Types**. Find more on page Accessing the IDE Settings.

2. On the File Types page that opens, click the **Add** button ✚.

3. In the New File Type dialog box that opens, specify the name of the new type and optionally provide a description.

4. In the **Syntax Highlighting** section, specify the characters for line and block comments, hex prefixes, and number postfixes.

5. In the **Keywords** section, specify sets of keywords using the tabs from 1 to 4. To do so, select the desired tab, click ✚ (`Alt+Insert`), and enter the keyword name in the **Add New Keyword** dialog box that opens.

   > Each set of keywords has its own highlighting. You can change the highlighting color scheme for each set, on the Colors and Fonts settings page. Click the **Custom** tab and edit the **Keyword1**, **Keyword2**, **Keyword3**, and **Keyword4** properties.

To associate a file type with extensions

1. Open the File Types settings page.

2. From the **Recognized File Types** list, select the desired type.

3. In the **Registered Patterns** area, complete the list of patterns that define the file extensions to indicate that the corresponding files belong to the selected type. Do one of the following:

   - To register a new pattern, click ✚ (`Alt+Insert`) and enter the desired extension pattern in the **Add Wildcard** dialog box that opens.

   - To update a pattern, select it in the list, click the **Edit** button 🖉 and make the necessary changes in the **Edit Wildcard** dialog box that opens.

   - To remove a pattern from the list, select it and click ▬ (`Alt+Delete`).

See Also

Reference:

- File Types
- New File Type
- Register New File Type Association Dialog

Web Resources:

- Developer Community ⧉