

Creating Persistence Units

When JPA support for a module is enabled, `persistence.xml` file is created in the `META-INF` directory under the module root. To persist Java objects to a data source, you have to define persistence units.

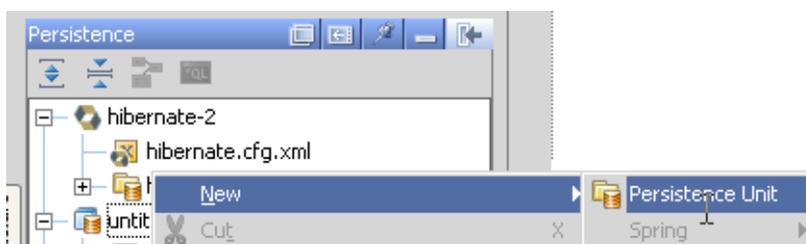
IntelliJ IDEA enables you to populate `persistence.xml` file with persistence units, using the context menu, or by editing the `persistence.xml` file.

The editor is aware of JPA specification and provides extensive coding assistance, which includes syntax and error highlighting, completion of tags, attributes and values, as well as intention actions and quick fixes.

This section describes how to create persistence units [using the context menu](#) or the [editor](#).

To create a persistence unit using the context menu

1. Open [Persistence tool window](#).
2. Right-click the desired module with JPA facet, and choose **New | Persistence Unit** on the context menu:

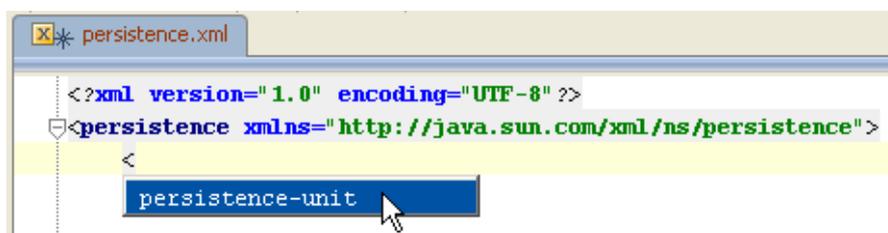


3. In the New Persistent Unit dialog box, specify the name of the new persistent unit, or accept default. A new persistence unit node is added to the module, and created in the `Persistence.xml` file.

By default, according to the JPA specification, a persistence unit in Java EE environment includes all the available annotated entities, which are displayed in the [Persistence tool window](#). If you want a particular persistence unit to contain the entities that are unique to this unit only, in the editor add the `exclude-unlisted-classes` element with the value `true` to the source code of the persistence unit.

To create a persistence unit in the editor

1. Open the `persistence.xml` file for editing.
2. Start typing the `persistence-unit` tag, and see code completion in action:



3. Type the name of the new persistence unit. Note that the corresponding persistence unit node is immediately created in the Persistence tool window.

Populate your persistence unit with elements, [create relationships](#) or [get schema information from a data source](#).

See Also

Concepts:

- [Data Sources](#)

Procedures:

- [Auto-Completing Code](#)
- [Configuring Intention Actions](#)
- [Enabling JPA Support](#)
- [Generating Persistence Mappings](#)

Reference:

- [Persistence Tool Window](#)

Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#) 