Differences Viewer for Folders and DB Objects

Project tool window | context menu of a folder | Compare Directory with
Project tool window | context menu of two selected folders | Compare Directories
Project tool window | context menu of a folder | Sync with Deployed to
Remote Host tool window | context menu of a folder | Sync with local
Tools | Deployment | Sync with local
Database tool window | context menu of two selected items | Compare

This window is displayed every time you explore differences between:

- Two local directories (local history for folders, recent changes, or version control).

- A remote folder and its local version.

- Two database objects (data sources, schemas, tables or columns).

In this dialog box, explore the detected differences and synchronize the compared items.

> You can also open the difference viewer without running IntelliJ IDEA. This is done through
> the following command: `<path to IntelliJ IDEA executable file> diff <path_1> <path_2>`
> where `path_1` and `path_2` are paths to the folders in question.

In this section:

- Toolbar

- List of items

- Differences pane

- Context menu

Toolbar

Item	Tooltip and shortcut	Description	Available for
⟳	Refresh `F5`	Click this button to refresh the contents of the differences viewer.	All
➡	Show new files on left side `Alt+Right`	Press this toggle button to have IntelliJ IDEA show the items, that are present in the first of the compared directories or database objects and are missing in the second one.	All
≠	Show difference `Alt+Minus`	Press this toggle button to have IntelliJ IDEA show items that are present in both folders or database objects but differ in contents, or timestamp, or size.	All
=	Show equals `Alt+Equals`	Press this toggle button to have IntelliJ IDEA show the items that are present in both directories or objects and have the same contents, or timestamp, or size, depending on the parameter for comparison specified in the **Compare by** drop-down list.	All
⬅	Show new files on right side `Alt+Left`	Press this toggle button to have IntelliJ IDEA show the items, that are present in the second of the compared directories or database objects and are missing in the first one.	All

Item	Tooltip and shortcut	Description	Available for
Compare by		In this drop-down list, select the parameter to be used for comparison. The available options are: ■ **Contents** ■ **Size** ■ **Time stamp**	Local folders Local-remote folders
▶	Synchronize Selected `Enter`	Click this button to have IntelliJ IDEA apply the specified action to the selected pair of items. Actions to be performed are shown in the ***** field.	All
▶▶	Synchronize All `Ctrl+Enter`	Click this button to have IntelliJ IDEA apply the specified action to all the pairs of items in the list. Actions to be performed are shown in the ***** field.	All
▼	Hide excluded files	Click this button to suppress showing files excluded from synchronization.	Local-remote folders
Filter		Type the filtering string (for example, file or table name). Use * wildcard to replace any number of arbitrary characters. Note that filter applies on pressing `Enter`.	All
Path		These fields show the paths to the folders being compared. To change a directory, click the **Browse** button 🔲 and specify another directory in the dialog that opens.	Local folders Local-remote folders
🗄		These read-only fields show the names of the data sources or tables being compared.	Data sources

List of items

The list shows the items from the compared objects that meet the comparison criterion specified in the Compare by drop-down list and the filtering criteria specified through the toolbar buttons.

Item	Description	Available for
Name	These read-only fields show the names of files, data source tables, or table fields under the object specified in the **Path** or 🗄 fields.	All
Size	These read-only fields show the sizes of files under the folders being compared.	Local folders Local-remote folders

Item	Description	Available for
Date	These read-only fields show the timestamps of files under the folders being compared.	Local folders Local-remote folders
*	The icon in this field indicates the action that will be applied to the pair of items in the current line upon clicking the **Synchronize Selected** ▶ or **Synchronize All** ▶▶ toolbar button. To change the currently selected action, click the icon.	All

Icon	Action
➡	Copy the item in the left side to the right side, possibly overwriting the contents of the corresponding target item, if it already exists.
⬅	Copy the item in the right side to the left side, possibly overwriting the contents of the corresponding target item, if it already exists.
=	The items are treated identical with regard to the selected criterion of comparison. No action will be performed by default.
≠	The items differ with regard to the selected criterion of comparison. No action will be performed by default. Explore the differences in the Differences Pane and change the intended action by clicking the icon.
✖	The item is present only in one of the folders and will be removed.

Differences pane

The differences pane only shows for   files, data source tables, or table fields   with the same names, which exist on both sides. For the files and DB objects that exist on one side only, the contents of the selected file/DB object is displayed.

If the files have read-only status, they are not editable in the differences pane.

Item	Description
📋	Click this button to place to the clipboard the fragment of code selected in the preview pane. If nothing is selected, the whole line at caret is copied.
🔍	Click this button to initiate the find in text procedure in the differences viewer.
⬇ or ⬆ F7 or Shift+F7	Click this button to move to the next / previous difference.

Item	Description
Ignore whitespace	Use this drop-down list to define how the differences viewer should treat white spaces in the text. - **Do not ignore**: white spaces are important, and the differences should be highlighted. - **Leading and trailing**: Ignore the differences, if they appear in the end and in the beginning of a line. - **All**: white spaces are not important, regardless of their location in the source code.
» or «	Use these *chevron* buttons to apply differences between files.

Context menu

This menu appears on right-clicking an entry in the list of items. The commands listed below define actions to be taken for the selected entry and set the action icons in the * column.

Item	Icon	Description
Set Copy to Right/Left	⬅	This command sets the specified icons in the * column to copy a file missing from one of the directories. If a file exists on one side, it will be copied; if it doesn't exist, then the file on the other side will not be deleted.
Set Delete	✖	This command sets the specified icons in the * column to delete file.
Set Do Nothing		Choose this command to remove an action icon.
Set Default		Choose this command to set the default action for the entry.
Warn When Delete		Select this check command to show warning.
Set Mirror ro Right/Left	➡	This command sets the specified icons in the * column to create a complete copy of a directory: if a file exists on one side, it will be copied; if it doesn't exist, then the file on the other side will be deleted. It is helpful for multiple selection.

See Also

Procedures:

- Comparing Folders
- Viewing Local History of a File or Folder
- Comparing Data Sources
- Comparing Deployed Files and Folders with Their Local Versions

Reference:

- Show History for Folder Dialog

- Recent Changes Dialog

Web Resources:

- Developer Community ⊡