

# GUI Designer

File | Settings | GUI Designer for Windows and Linux  
IntelliJ IDEA | Preferences | GUI Designer for OS X

Item	Description
Generate GUI into	<p>This option specifies what kind of output the GUI Designer generates for the visual forms you create. The available settings are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <i>Binary class files.</i> This is the default option. When selected, no Java source code is generated for GUI forms and components. When the project compiles, IntelliJ IDEA simply creates the necessary compiled runtime classes.</li><li>■ <i>Java source files.</i> If this option is selected, the GUI Designer writes Java source code for the form and its components to the source file of the class to which the form is <b>bound</b>, on compiling, running or debugging. During compilation, two blocks of code are added to the form's class:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ A private method <code>\$\$\$setupUI\$\$\$()</code> that contains the GUI initializer code for the bound form and its components.</li><li>■ A call to the <code>\$\$\$setupUI\$\$\$()</code> method.</li></ul></li></ul> <div data-bbox="488 898 1396 1099" style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 10px;"><p>Do not change the generated method, or call it from any other code. If you manually modify GUI initializer code, your UI will no longer be in sync with the <code>.form</code> file, and the next compilation will overwrite your changes.</p></div>
Automatically copy form runtime classes to the output directory	<p>If this option is checked, the classes from the package <code>com.intellij.uiDesigner.core</code> are copied to the configured output directory, when the project is compiled. These classes are used when working with the <code>GridLayoutManager(IntelliJ)</code>, or when there are components with <b>mnemonics</b>, specified by the <code>&amp;</code> character.</p>
Default Layout Manager	<p>Set the default layout manager for new components placed into forms. The selection here appears as the setting for the <i>Layout Manager</i> property whenever a new component is placed on a form.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <i>BorderLayout:</i> Design-time behavior in forms emulates Java's <i>Border</i> layout manager.</li><li>■ <i>CardLayout:</i> Design-time behavior in forms emulates Java's <i>Card</i> layout manager.</li><li>■ <i>FlowLayout:</i> Design-time behavior in forms emulates Java's <i>Flow</i> layout manager.</li><li>■ <i>FormLayout (JGoodies):</i> Design-time behavior in forms emulates JGoodies Forms layout manager. (For more information, see <a href="https://jgoodies.dev.java.net/">https://jgoodies.dev.java.net/</a> )</li><li>■ <i>GridBagLayout:</i> Design-time behavior in forms emulates Java's <i>Grid Bag</i> layout manager.</li><li>■ <i>GridLayoutManager (IntelliJ):</i> Design-time behavior in forms is controlled by this custom layout manager. It's basically a simple grid layout scheme that's sufficient for many uses. It is the default layout manager in new IntelliJ IDEA installations.</li></ul>

Item	Description
Default accessibility for UI-bound fields	Use this option, if you want to change the default accessibility for UI-bound fields from <code>private</code> to something else, like <code>public</code> .

### See Also

#### Reference:

- [GUI Designer Reference](#)

#### Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#) 