

# Live Template Abbreviation

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Each live template is identified by a *template abbreviation*.

The template abbreviations work like shortcuts and are expanded into fragments of source code, depending on the surrounding *context*. So doing, IntelliJ IDEA can format the generated code fragments according to the code style settings.

An abbreviation may contain alphanumeric characters, dots, and hyphens, and must be unique within its [group](#). However, you can use the same abbreviation for different templates provided that they are in different groups.

Whole code constructs can be created using the template abbreviations. To do that, type the template abbreviation, and press expansion key (for example, `Tab`). Refer to the section [Creating Code Constructs by Live Templates](#) for details.

## See Also

### Procedures:

- [Creating and Editing Live Templates](#)
- [Creating and Editing Template Variables](#)
- [Surrounding Blocks of Code with Language Constructs](#)
- [Creating Code Constructs by Live Templates](#)
- [Emmet \(Zen Coding\) Support](#)

### Reference:

- [Live Templates](#)

### Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#) 