

Live Template Variables

Template variables in live templates enable user input. After a template is expanded, variables appear in the editor as *input fields*.

Variables within templates are declared in the following format:

```
$<variable_name>$
```

Variables are defined by expressions, and can accept some default values.

This expression may contain constructs of the following basic types:

- Predefined functions with possible arguments.
- String constants in double quotes.
- The name of another variable defined in a live template.

Template variables are editable in the [Edit Template Variables Dialog](#), which contains a complete list of available functions.

IntelliJ IDEA supports two *predefined live template variables*: `END` and `$SELECTION$`.

You cannot edit the predefined live template variables `END` and `$SELECTION$`.

- `END` indicates the position of the cursor after the template is expanded. For example, the template `return END;` will be expanded into
`return ;`
with the cursor positioned *right before* the semicolon.
- `$SELECTION$` is used in *surround templates* and stands for the code fragment to be wrapped. After the template is expanded, the selected text is wrapped as specified in the template.
For example, if you select `EXAMPLE` in your code and invoke the "`$SELECTION$`" template via the assigned abbreviation or by pressing `Ctrl+Alt+T` and selecting the desired template from the list, IntelliJ IDEA will wrap the selection in double quotes as follows:
`"EXAMPLE"`.

See Also

Procedures:

- [Creating and Editing Template Variables](#)

Reference:

- [Edit Template Variables Dialog](#)

Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#) 