

Project and IDE Settings

There are two types of settings that define your preferred environment:

- *Project Settings*, that apply to a specific project.
- *IDE Settings*, that are common for all projects and refer to the project-independent aspects.

In this topic:

- [Project Settings](#)
- [IDE Settings](#)

Project Settings

Project settings are stored with each specific project as a set of `xml` files under the `.idea` folder. If you specify the [default project settings](#), these settings will be automatically used for each newly created project.

IDE Settings

IDE settings are stored in the dedicated directories under the product home directory, depending on the platform. The product home directory name is composed of the product name and version.

For IntelliJ IDEA Community edition the folder name is `.IdeaICXX`.

For example:

Windows

- `<User home>\.IntelliJIdeaXX\config` that contains user-specific settings.
- `<User home>\.IntelliJIdeaXX\system` that stores IntelliJ IDEA data caches.

`<User home>` in WindowsXP is `C:\Documents and Settings\<User name>`; in Windows Vista it is `C:\Users\<User name>`

Linux

- `~/IntelliJIdeaXX/config` that contains user-specific settings.
- `~/IntelliJIdeaXX/system` that stores IntelliJ IDEA data caches.

OS X

- `~/Library/Application Support/IntelliJIdeaXX` contains the catalog with plugins.
- `~/Library/Preferences/IntelliJIdeaXX` contains the rest of the configuration settings.
- `~/Library/Caches/IntelliJIdeaXX` contains data caches, logs, local history, etc. These files can be quite significant in size.
- `~/Library/Logs/IntelliJIdeaXX` contains logs

The `config` directory has several subfolders that contain `xml` files with your personal settings. You can easily share your preferred keymaps, color schemes, etc. by copying these files into the corresponding folders on another IntelliJ IDEA installation. Prior to copying, make sure that IntelliJ IDEA is not running, because it can erase the newly transferred files before shutting down.

The following is the list of some of the subfolders under the `config` folder, and the settings contained therein.

Folder name	User Settings
codestyles	Contains code style schemes .
colors	Contains editor colors and fonts customization schemes.
filetypes	Contains user-defined file types .
inspection	Contains code inspection profiles .
keymaps	Contains IntelliJ IDEA keyboard shortcuts customizations.
options	Contains various options, for example, feature usage statistics and macros.
templates	Contains user-defined live templates .
tools	Contains configuration files for the user-defined external tools .
shelf	Contains shelved changes .

Locations of the Config, System, and Plugins directories can be modified in IntelliJ IDEA_home\bin\idea.properties file.

You will need to adjust the following parameters:

- `idea.config.path`
- `idea.system.path`
- `idea.plugins.path`

See Also

Procedures:

- [Configuring IDE Settings](#)
- [Configuring Project Settings](#)
- [Importing IntelliJ IDEA Settings on First Launch](#)
- [Managing Projects Under Version Control](#)

Reference:

- [Settings / Preferences Dialog](#)

External Links:

- [Product files locations \(caches, plugins, logs\) on different operating systems](#) 

Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#) 