

Tuning IntelliJ IDEA

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Increasing productivity

To increase productivity of IntelliJ IDEA, you can change settings that reside in the following locations (depending on your operating system):

- On Windows systems:

```
<IntelliJ IDEA installation folder>/bin/idea.exe.vmoptions
```

or

```
<IntelliJ IDEA installation folder>/bin/idea64.exe.vmoptions
```

- On *NIX systems:

```
<IntelliJ IDEA installation folder>/bin/idea.vmoptions
```

or

```
<IntelliJ IDEA installation folder>/bin/idea64.vmoptions
```

- On OS X:

Since version 12:

The file `/Applications/IntelliJ IDEA.app/bin/idea.vmoptions` should be copied to

```
~/Library/Preferences/IntelliJIdeaXX/idea.vmoptions
```

Example. increasing heap size

For example, to increase IntelliJ IDEA heap size, you should copy the original `.vmoptions` file from `/Applications/IntelliJ IDEA.app/bin/idea.vmoptions` to `~/Library/Preferences/IntelliJIdeaXX/idea.vmoptions`, then modify the `-Xmx` setting.

For the older versions, the settings are stored in:

```
/Applications/IntelliJ IDEA.app/Contents/Info.plist
```

Managing case of unicode literals

IntelliJ IDEA allows defining whether non-ascii characters should use literals like `'\u00AB'` or `'\00ab'`.

This behavior is controlled by the system property `idea.native2ascii.lowercase`. By default, upper case characters are used.

If it is desirable to use lower case characters, do the following (depending on your platform)

- On Windows and *NIX: add the line

```
idea.native2ascii.lowercase=true
```

to the `bin/idea.properties` file, located under the product installation.

- On OS X:

Copy the file `/Applications/IntelliJ IDEA.app/bin/idea.properties` to `~/Library/Preferences/IntelliJIdeaXX/`, open it for editing, and add the line

```
idea.native2ascii.lowercase=true
```

It is essential to create a copy, since the settings are replaced rather than added.

For the older versions of IntelliJ IDEA, open for editing the file `/Applications/IntelliJ IDEA.app/Contents/Info.plist`, and add the following code:

```
<key>idea.native2ascii.lowercase</key>  
<string>true</string>
```

to the section `<key>Properties</key> <dict> ... <dict>`

See Also

Reference:

- [Project and IDE Settings](#)

External Links:

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

Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#) 