

Using CVS Watches

CVS integration of IntelliJ IDEA helps coordinate the activities of team members, who concurrently work on the same files or directories.

CVS watches enable you to notify the users of a CVS repository whenever a file has been opened for editing, or committed. If you watch a file or directory for changes and commits, you are added to the list of watchers.

Usage the commands related to watches depends on configuration of the `$CVSROOT/CVSROOT/notify` file.

Edit and *Unedit* commands change read-only status of the files or directories under CVS. If the sources were checked out with the option `-c`, you can apply *Edit* command to make them writable. In this case you are added to the list of editors. When you are done with editing, use *Unedit* command to restore read-only status. So doing, you are removed from the list of editors. If watching is configured, the watchers will receive email notification about these events.

In fact, the option **Use read-only flag for not edited files** in the **CVS** provides the same functionality automatically. If this option is checked, *Unedit* always applies to the source files after commit.

Edit and Watch commands apply to all the files you have selected in the current view (including all the files in any selected directory), or to the current file in the editor if you invoked the command there.

This section describes how to:

- [Access Edit and Watch commands](#)
- [Change read-only status of a file or directory](#)
- [View the other persons who edit the same file or directory](#)
- [Set watch on a certain event for a file or directory and thus add yourself to the list of wanchers](#)
- [Enable or disable watching](#)
- [View the other persons who watch the same file or directory](#)

To access edit and watch commands

1. In one of the tool windows, select the desired files or directories, or open a file in the editor.
2. Do one of the following:
 - On the main menu, choose **VCS | CVS | Edit and Watch**
 - On the context menu, choose **CVS | Edit and Watch**

To get write access to a file or directory

1. [Open Edit and Watch menu.](#)
2. Choose **Edit** on the submenu. Edit Options dialog box is displayed.
3. If you want to gain exclusive write access, check the option **Reserved edit (-c)**. Click **OK**.

To restore read-only status of a file or directory

1. [Open Edit and Watch menu.](#)
2. Choose **Unedit** on the submenu.

To view the other persons who edit the same file or directory

1. [Open Edit and Watch menu.](#)
2. Choose **Show Editors** on the submenu. This will display the list of all users who have run the **Edit** command on the same file or directory.

To set watch on a file or directory

1. [Open Edit and Watch menu.](#)
2. Choose **Add Watch** on the submenu.
3. In the dialog box that opens, select the type of action you would like to be notified about:
 - **Edit**: you will notified whenever *Edit* is applied to a watched file or directory.
 - **Unedit**: you will notified whenever *Unedit* is applied to a watched file or directory.
 - **Commit**: you will notified whenever *Commit* is applied to a watched file or directory.
 - **All**: you will notified whenever any of the above commands is applied to a watched file or directory.

To remove watch from a file or directory

1. [Open Edit and Watch menu.](#)
2. Choose **Remove Watch** on the submenu.
3. In the dialog box that opens, select the type of action for which you would like to skip notification (**Edit**, **Unedit**, **Commit** or **All**).

To suspend or resume watching

1. [Open Edit and Watch menu.](#)
2. Choose **Watch Off** or **Watch On** on the submenu.

To view the list of users who are watching the same files or directories

1. [Open Edit and Watch menu.](#)
2. Choose **Show Watchers** on the submenu.

See Also

Concepts:

- [Supported Version Control Systems](#)

Reference:

- [Version Control Reference](#)
- [CVS](#)

External Links:

- <http://ximbiot.com/cvs/cvshome/> 

Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#) 