

Using External Annotations

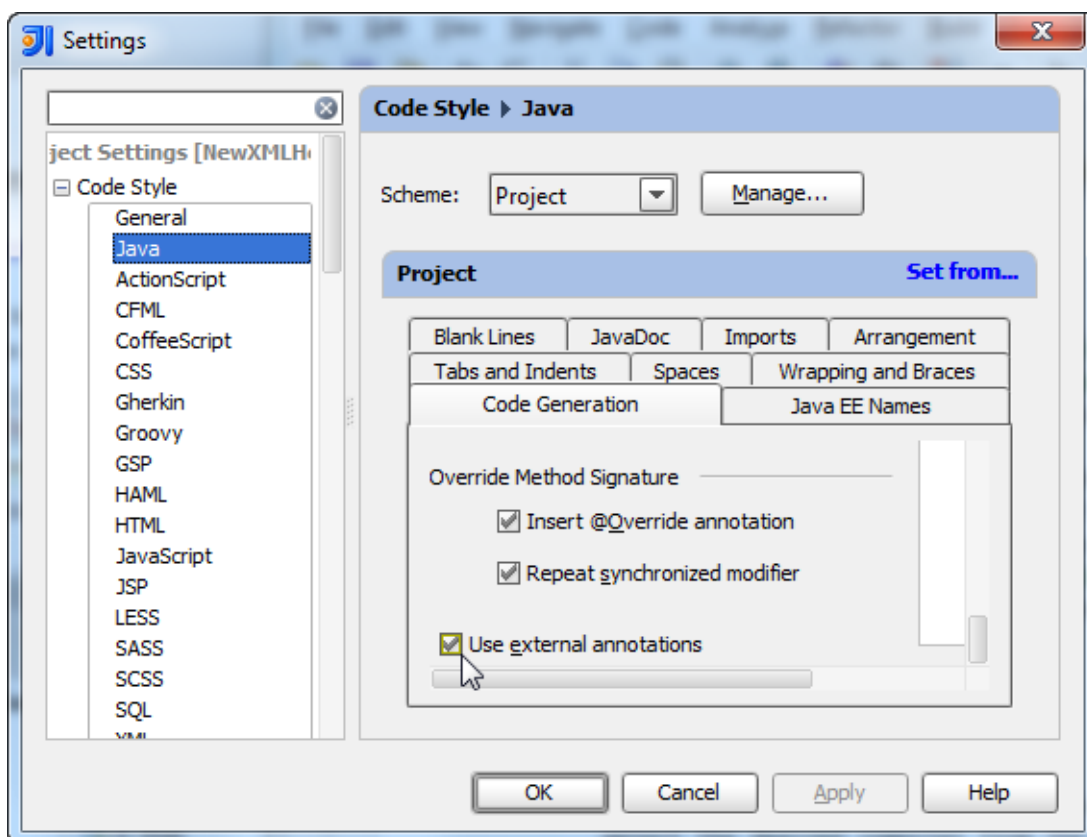
If you want IntelliJ IDEA to use [external annotations](#), you have to enable this facility, and specify the directories, where the external annotations will be stored.

This section describes how to:

- [Enable external annotations](#).
- Configure paths to the external annotations on the [SDK](#) or [module](#) level.
- [Apply](#) external annotations.

Enabling external annotations

1. In the Code Generation section of the [Java](#) code style page, select the check box **Use external annotations**.



2. Apply changes and close the dialog box.

Defining the path to external annotations on the SDK level

1. Open the [Project Structure dialog](#) (Ctrl+Shift+Alt+S).
2. In the **Platform Settings** section, click **SDK**.
3. In the SDK page, select **Annotations** tab.
4. Click **Add** button and specify the desired path in the Select Path dialog. You can create as many annotation paths as you like.
5. Apply changes and close the dialog box.

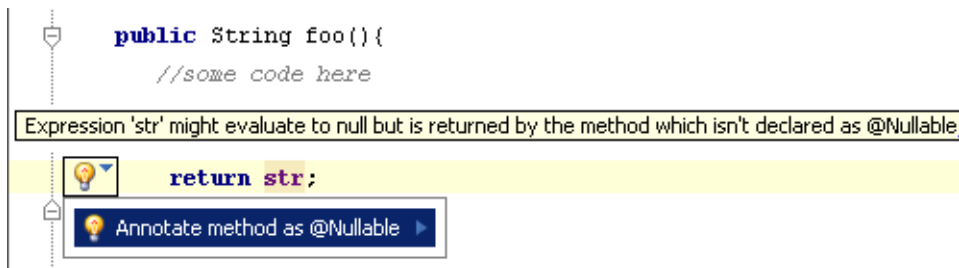
Defining the path to external annotations for a module

1. On the context menu of a project, choose **Module Settings**. Project Structure dialog is displayed on the [Modules page](#).
2. Select **Paths** tab.
3. In the **External Annotations** section, click **Add** and specify the desired path in the [Select Path dialog](#). You can create as many annotation paths as required.
4. Apply changes and close the dialog box.

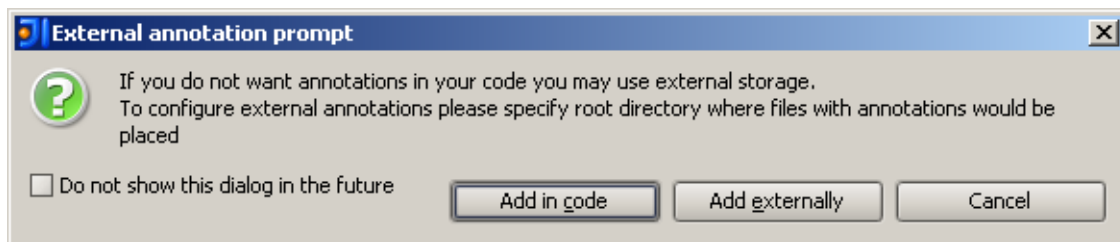
Annotating a symbol with an external annotation

Follow these general steps:

1. If code inspection alerts you about the necessity to annotate a symbol, press **Alt+Enter** to show the list of intention actions, and select the appropriate **Annotate** command, for example:



2. In the dialog box that opens, click the **Add externally** button.



This dialog appears if external annotations are [enabled](#). Otherwise, annotations are added to the source code by default.

See Also

Concepts:

- [External Annotations](#)

Procedures:

- [Debugging Django Templates](#)
- [Internationalizing Source Code](#)

Reference:

- [Code Style. Java](#)
- [Modules](#)
- [Inspection Tool Window](#)

Web Resources:

- [Developer Community](#)

