

# Command-Line Source Code Formatter

Please check the official [Command Line Formatter help page](#).

## Running Command-Line Formatter when the IDE is Running

### On Linux/MacOS

- Go to `<IntelliJ Home>/bin` directory where `<IntelliJ Home>` is a directory where IntelliJ IDEA or IntelliJ IDEA-based product is installed.
- Copy `idea.properties` to some other file, for example, `format.properties`
- Modify `format.properties` as follows:

1. Uncomment the lines:

```
# idea.config.path=${user.home}/.IntelliJ IDEA/config
and
# idea.system.path=${user.home}/.IntelliJ IDEA/system
```

2. Change them to point to some directories which differ from defaults, for example:

```
idea.config.path=${user.home}/.IntelliJ IDEA/format/config
idea.system.path=${user.home}/.IntelliJ IDEA/format/system
```

- Modify `format.sh` by adding the line with `IDEA_PROPERTIES` variable:

```
#!/bin/sh
# -----
# IntelliJ IDEA formatting script.
# -----

IDE_BIN_HOME="${0%/*}"
export IDEA_PROPERTIES=$IDE_BIN_HOME/format.properties
exec "$IDE_BIN_HOME/idea.sh" format "$@"
```

- Run `format.sh` without closing the IDE, it should give the following output:

```
IntelliJ IDEA ..., build ... Formatter
Usage: format [-h] [-r|-R] [-s|-settings settingsPath] path1 path2...
-h|-help          Show a help message and exit.
-s|-settings      A path to IntelliJ IDEA code style settings .xml file.
-r|-R            Scan directories recursively.
-m|-mask          A comma-separated list of file masks.
path..           A path to a file or a directory.
```

### On Windows

- You have to create a separate `format.properties` file as described above for Linux/MacOS.
- Change `format.bat` file by adding a line with `IDEA_PROPERTIES` variable as follows:

```
@ECHO OFF
:-----
: IntelliJ IDEA formatting script.
:-----

SET IDE_BIN_DIR=%~dp0
SET IDEA_PROPERTIES=%IDE_BIN_DIR%\format.properties
CALL "%IDE_BIN_DIR%\idea.bat" format %*
```

- Run `format.bat`, it will list the command-line formatter options.