

GitHub Copilot Features: VS Code vs IntelliJ IDEA

✓ = Strong support

⚠ = Partial / limited / preview

✗ = Not available

GitHub Copilot Feature Matrix

Feature	VS Code	IntelliJ IDEA
Inline Code Suggestions (multi-line, blocks)	✓	✓
Copilot Chat (natural language interface)	✓	✓
Slash Commands (/fix , /tests , /explain , /doc)	✓	✓
Model Picker (GPT-4o, Claude 3.5, Gemini)	✓	✓
Workspace-wide / Multi-file Context	✓	✓
File Attachments in Chat	✓	✓
Inline Chat (editor)	✓	✓
Terminal Chat Integration	✓	⚠
Copilot Edits (multi-file agent editing)	✓	⚠
Code Review (pre-PR suggestions)	✓	✓
Commit Message Generation	✓	✓
Custom Instructions (.github/copilot-instructions.md)	✓	✓
Refactoring Awareness (deep project context)	⚠	✓
Java / Kotlin / Scala Ecosystem Strength	⚠	✓
Feature Rollout Speed (new features first)	✓	⚠
AI-powered Documentation Generation	✓	✓

GitHub Copilot Features: VS Code vs IntelliJ IDEA

Feature	VS Code	IntelliJ IDEA
Code Explanation with Context	✓	✓
Multi-language Support in Single Chat	✓	✓
Enterprise Admin Controls	✓	✓
Next Edit Suggestions (predictive edits)	✓	⚠️

Note: IntelliJ has achieved near feature parity with VS Code. Features marked ⚠️ are either in preview or have slightly different implementations. Check your plugin version for the latest capabilities.

🔑 Takeaway

VS Code: Best for teams wanting bleeding-edge Copilot features, multi-file agent editing (Copilot Edits), terminal integration, and rapid feature updates.

IntelliJ IDEA: Best for JVM projects (Java, Kotlin, Scala) where deep refactoring awareness, type inference, and IDE-native intelligence enhance Copilot's suggestions. Feature gap has narrowed significantly.