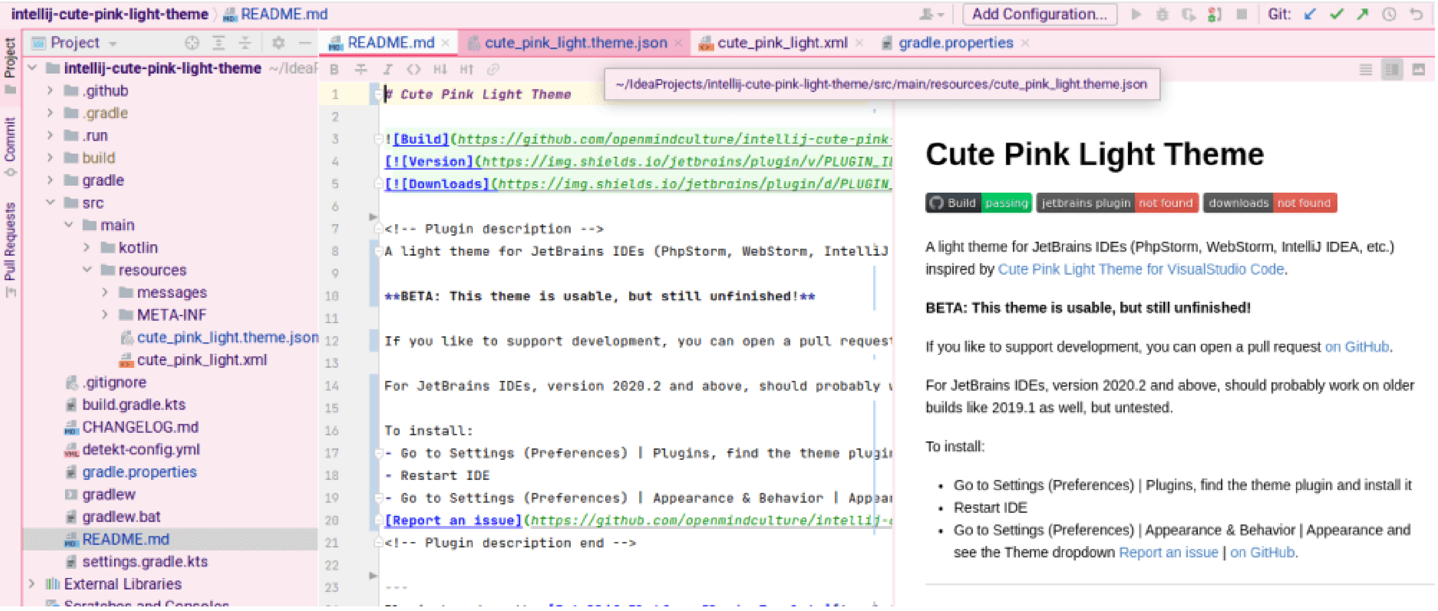


```
# Cute Pink Light Theme

![Build](https://github.com/openmindculture/intellij-cute-pink
[![Version](https://img.shields.io/jetbrains/plugin/v/PLUGIN_I
[![Downloads](https://img.shields.io/jetbrains/plugin/d/PLUGIN_

<!-- Plugin description -->
A light theme for JetBrains IDEs (PhpStorm, WebStorm, IntelliJ

**BETA: This theme is usable, but still unfinished!**

If you like to support development, you can open a pull request

For JetBrains IDEs, version 2020.2 and above, should probably w

To install:
- Go to Settings (Preferences) | Plugins, find the theme plugin
- Restart IDE
- Go to Settings (Preferences) | Appearance & Behavior | Appear
[Report an issue](https://github.com/openmindculture/intellij-c
<!-- Plugin description end -->

---
```

Cute Pink Light Theme

A light theme for JetBrains IDEs (PhpStorm, WebStorm, IntelliJ IDEA, etc.) inspired by Cute Pink Light Theme for VisualStudio Code.

BETA: This theme is usable, but still unfinished!

If you like to support development, you can open a pull request on GitHub.

For JetBrains IDEs, version 2020.2 and above, should probably work on older builds like 2019.1 as well, but untested.

To install:

- Go to Settings (Preferences) | Plugins, find the theme plugin and install it
- Restart IDE
- Go to Settings (Preferences) | Appearance & Behavior | Appearance and see the Theme dropdown Report an issue | on GitHub.

Edit Manage Stats

Ingo Steinke
Posted on 3 May 2021 • Updated on 21 Dec 2021

Creating a Theme for PHPStorm / IntelliJ IDEA

#showdev #theme #todayilearned #kotlin

While I like VisualStudio Code (or rather Codium) as a quick and simple editor that fulfills most of my requirements as a web developer, there are reasons to use PHPStorm, like the Symfony and Shopware plugins.

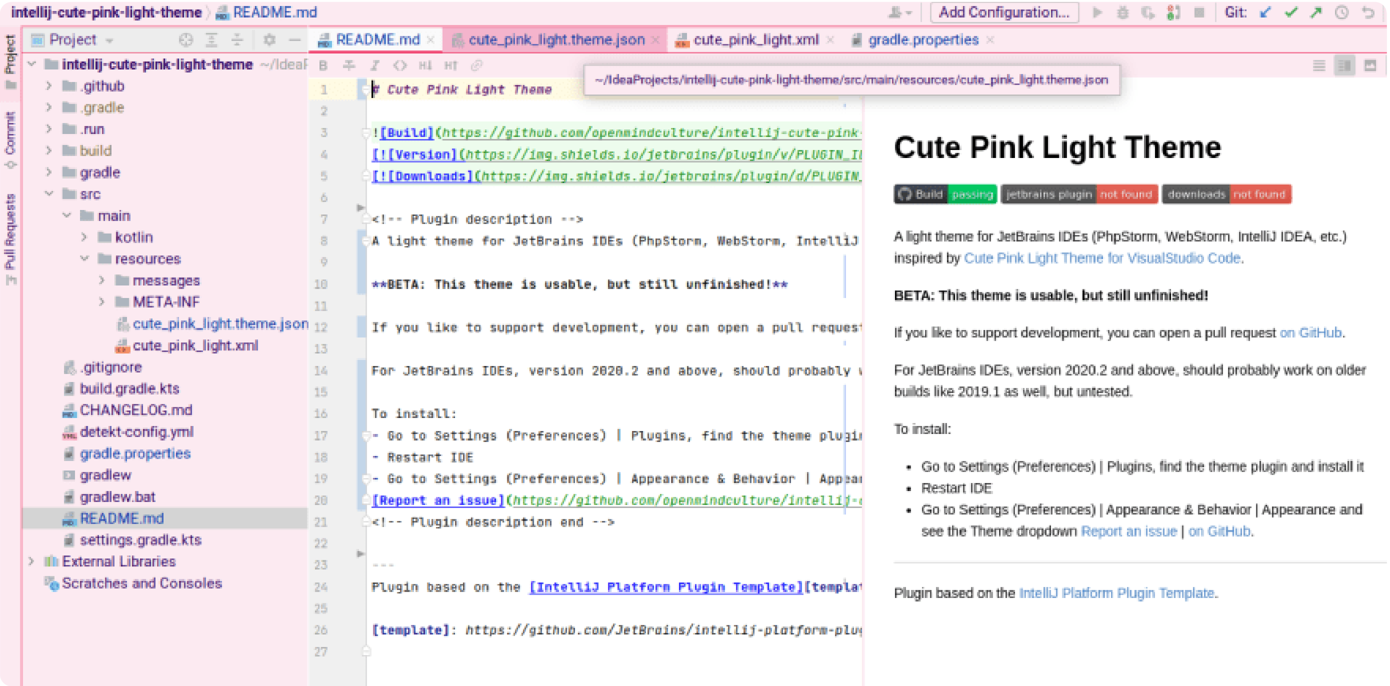
Themes for IntelliJ Platform IDEs

JetBrains have made theming possible since 2019 for all IntelliJ IDE's (like PHPStorm), but there were not many colorful themes yet. Sepia and Espresso Light Theme are nice, and Pastel-licious looks very promising, but it failed to install in the current version. I also like Pink as heck but I need a light theme for coding on a sunny day.

Why not try to code my first IntelliJ theme then?

A Cute Pink Light Theme

Here it is: Cute Pink Light Theme - Plugins | JetBrains
Source Code: github.com/openmindculture/intellij-cute-pink-light-theme



```
# Cute Pink Light Theme

![Build](https://github.com/openmindculture/intellij-cute-pink-
[![Version](https://img.shields.io/jetbrains/plugin/v/PLUGIN_II
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- Restart IDE
- Go to Settings (Preferences) | Appearance & Behavior | Appear
[Report an issue](https://github.com/openmindculture/intellij-c
<!-- Plugin description end -->

---

Plugin based on the [IntelliJ Platform Plugin Template][templat

[template]: https://github.com/JetBrains/intellij-platform-plug
```

Cute Pink Light Theme

Build passing | jetbrains plugin not found | downloads not found

A light theme for JetBrains IDEs (PhpStorm, WebStorm, IntelliJ IDEA, etc.) inspired by Cute Pink Light Theme for VisualStudio Code.

BETA: This theme is usable, but still unfinished!

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For JetBrains IDEs, version 2020.2 and above, should probably work on older builds like 2019.1 as well, but untested.

To install:

- Go to Settings (Preferences) | Plugins, find the theme plugin and install it
- Restart IDE
- Go to Settings (Preferences) | Appearance & Behavior | Appearance and see the Theme dropdown Report an issue | on GitHub.

Plugin based on the IntelliJ Platform Plugin Template.

My own cute pink light theme for IntelliJ IDE has been inspired by WebFreak's VS Code / Codium theme, so it is mostly a copy, and credits for design got to go to WebFreak.

"Just a Sunday Morning Side Project"

As my little Sunday morning side project had been taking too much time already, I decided to release a beta version and complete the details later. You can help me and submit a pull request on GitHub if you like.

Comparing Apples and Oranges 🍏 🍊

There are so many UI themes for VisualStudio Code, dark ones, light ones, and colorful ones. I like the blueish Night Owl by Sarah Drasner, and I currently love WebFreak's Cute Pink Light Theme for its happy colors and high contrast and readability. But there are not so many themes for JetBrains IDEs. How hard can it be to add my own?

In a discussion on devrant, while waiting for the theme build and test to complete, IntrusionCM reminds me that "Visual studio code is a web application. But yeah. The difference in time should be extreme - one is a compiled plugin, the other "just some CSS atop".

Right, "just some CSS atop" is exactly what I love about web development. Clear separation of concerns, rapid development with little overhead, small memory footprint (all of which is only true unless `npm install` of course).

To be fair, building the plugin is very quick, the only thing that took such a long time was the verification, because it actually tries to verify my code against multiple

versions of JetBrains IDE, which is a good thing.

Taking a Sledgehammer to Crack a Nut 🔨🌰

Okay, so I just want to change some colors in my IDE.
Okay, I have to publish a theme to do so.

JetBrains provides a theme template and links to tutorials on how to build themes and other plugins using their SDK.

Okay, there is another, more complicated, template for plugin development, which turns out to be a Gradle project that probably requires me to use the actual IntelliJ IDEA IDE instead of PHPStorm.

Remember, all I wanted to do is change some colors!
Do I really have to use their plugin builder setup?

JetBrains Custom UI Theme Workflow

Quoting JetBrains' tutorial on Custom UI Theme Workflow

> Creating a UI Theme follows this general sequence:
>
> - Setup Development Environment
> - Start with a Plugin Project
> - Add UI Theme components to the plugin by using the DevKit UI Theme Wizard.
> - Customize the UI Theme by adding data objects to the Theme description (JSON) file.
> - Add an Editor Scheme or Background Image to the plugin.
> - Build and test the UI Theme plugin.
> - Deploy the UI Theme plugin
> - Publish the UI Theme plugin

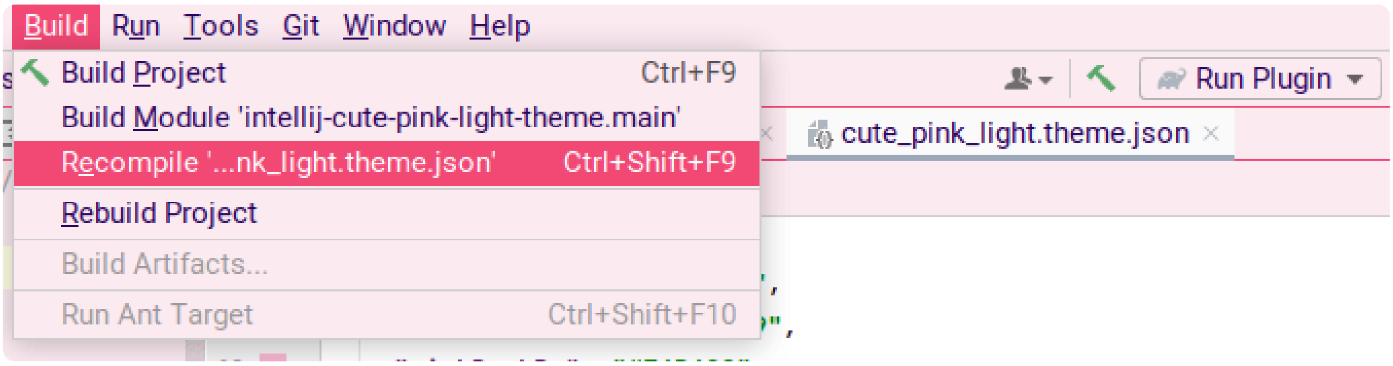
Problems...

Lacking (or not knowing) an extensive UI reference, I can only guess which identifiers to override, and the tutorial seriously suggests using code completion as documentation. But then, there is this useful wildcard feature, allowing me to set generic background and foreground values like this in my `theme.json`:

```
"ui": {
    "*": {
      "background": "pinkLightBg",
      "selectedBackground": "pinkMediumBg",
      "hoverBackground": "pinkDarkBg",
      "foreground": "purpleDarkerText",
      "disabledText": "purpleLightText",
      "selectionBackground": "pinkDeepBg",
      "selectionForeground": "whiteText",
      "underlineColor": "purpleRedBorder",
      "errorFocusColor": "purpleRedFocusRect"
    },
    "Editor.background": "whiteBg",
```

(The color names are no JetBrains defaults, but rather my own project-specific design tokens.)

When the build fails due to invalid JSON, there is only a quite generic error message without a line number, like `com.fasterxml.jackson.core.io.JsonEOFException: Unexpected end-of-input: was expecting closing quote for a string value`, which is not really helpful. Sometimes the build seemed to have missed my latest file change, as the error message erratically went away after several retries without changing the file. That can be quite annoying, but it would not be the only system with race conditions, so let's just remember to try more than one time.


Build Run Tools Git Window Help
Build Project Ctrl+F9
Build Module 'intellij-cute-pink-light-theme.main'
Recompile '...nk_light.theme.json' Ctrl+Shift+F9
Rebuild Project
Build Artifacts...
Run Ant Target Ctrl+Shift+F10
Run Plugin
cute_pink_light.theme.json

While build, test, and verification are possible, there are still some serious problems, like the "prepare plugin for deployment" action not showing up in the build menu.

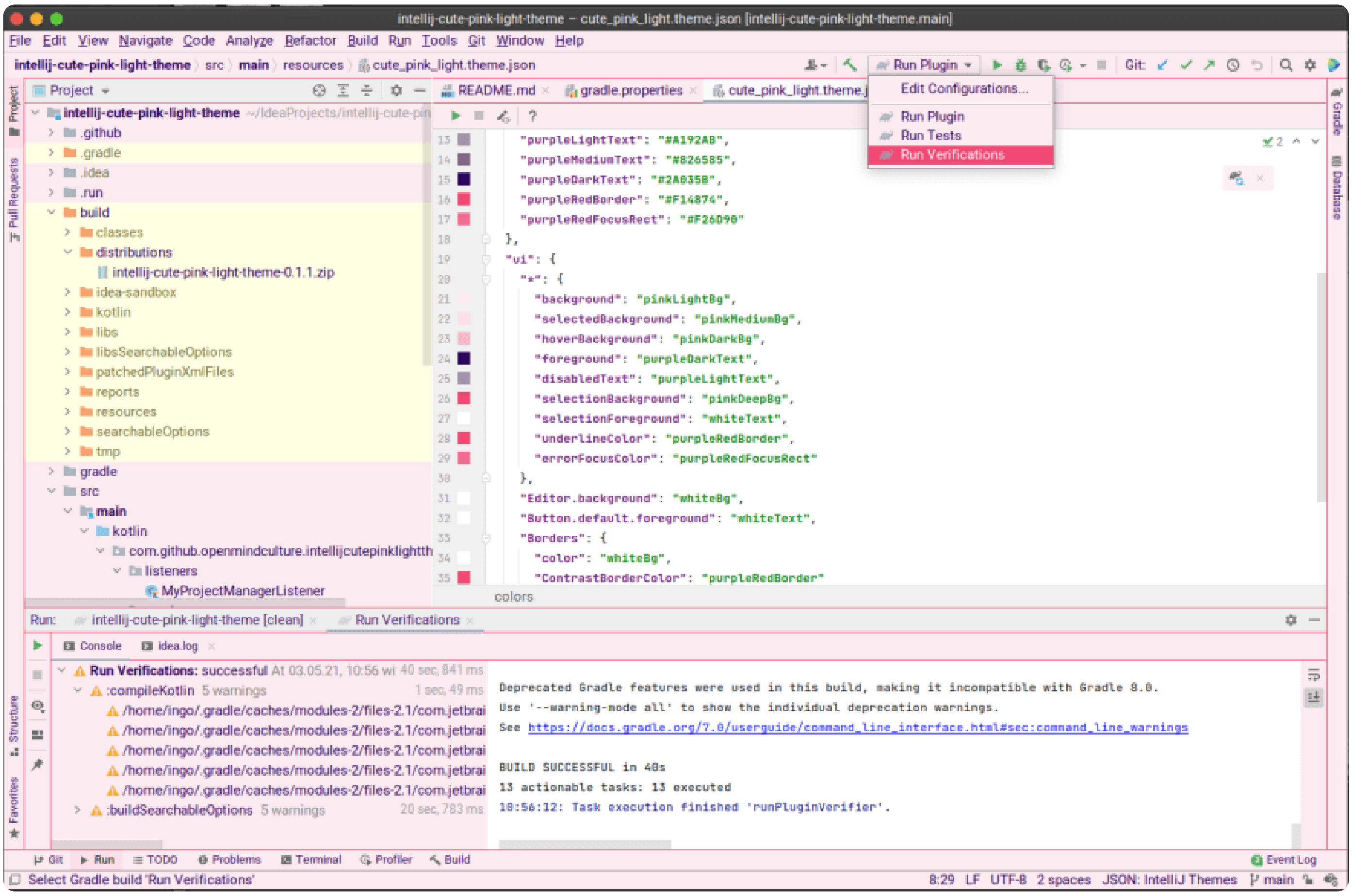
Trying to build and run the plugin. The plugin is built, IntelliJ Ultimate opens an instance of IntelliJ community edition to preview the plugin. The application crashes after opening any project.

...and Solutions

But if I open IntelliJ settings before opening a project, I can preview my plugin in the settings dialog at least.

Having come that far, I am sure that my plugin has already been prepared and packaged. In `build/distributions` there is a zip file that I can manually import into my regular PHPStorm installation (Settings -> Plugins -> Gear Icon -> install the plugin from disk) where everything works and nothing crashes.

Remember for updates: "Run Plugin" is only a preview, but "Run Verifications" creates a new bundle file. To be sure, increase the version number for each change and verify the version number in the bundle file name.



intellij-cute-pink-light-theme – cute_pink_light.theme.json [intellij-cute-pink-light-theme.main]
File Edit View Navigate Code Analyze Refactor Build Run Tools Git Window Help
intellij-cute-pink-light-theme 〉 src 〉 main 〉 resources 〉 cute_pink_light.theme.json
Run Plugin
Edit Configurations...
Run Plugin
Run Tests
Run Verifications
Project
README.md
gradle.properties
cute_pink_light.theme.j
intellij-cute-pink-light-theme ~/IdeaProjects/intellij-cute-pin
.github
.gradle
.idea
.run
build
classes
distributions
intellij-cute-pink-light-theme-0.1.1.zip
idea-sandbox
kotlin
libs
libsSearchableOptions
patchedPluginXmlFiles
reports
resources
searchableOptions
tmp
gradle
src
main
kotlin
com.github.openmindculture.intellijcutepinklightth
listeners
MyProjectManagerListener
colors
Run: intellij-cute-pink-light-theme [clean]
Run Verifications
Console
idea.log
Git
Run
TODO
Problems
Terminal
Profiler
Build
Event Log
Select Gradle build 'Run Verifications'
8:29 LF UTF-8 2 spaces JSON: IntelliJ Themes main

```
    "purpleLightText": "#A192AB",
    "purpleMediumText": "#826585",
    "purpleDarkText": "#2A035B",
    "purpleRedBorder": "#F14874",
    "purpleRedFocusRect": "#F26D98"
  },
  "ui": {
    "*": {
      "background": "pinkLightBg",
      "selectedBackground": "pinkMediumBg",
      "hoverBackground": "pinkDarkBg",
      "foreground": "purpleDarkText",
      "disabledText": "purpleLightText",
      "selectionBackground": "pinkDeepBg",
      "selectionForeground": "whiteText",
      "underlineColor": "purpleRedBorder",
      "errorFocusColor": "purpleRedFocusRect"
    },
    "Editor.background": "whiteBg",
    "Button.default.foreground": "whiteText",
    "Borders": {
      "color": "whiteBg",
      "ContrastBorderColor": "purpleRedBorder"
```

```
Run Verifications: successful At 03.05.21, 10:56 wi 40 sec, 841 ms
  :compileKotlin 5 warnings                              1 sec, 49 ms
    /home/ingo/.gradle/caches/modules-2/files-2.1/com.jetbrai
    /home/ingo/.gradle/caches/modules-2/files-2.1/com.jetbrai
    /home/ingo/.gradle/caches/modules-2/files-2.1/com.jetbrai
    /home/ingo/.gradle/caches/modules-2/files-2.1/com.jetbrai
    /home/ingo/.gradle/caches/modules-2/files-2.1/com.jetbrai
  :buildSearchableOptions 5 warnings                    20 sec, 783 ms
```

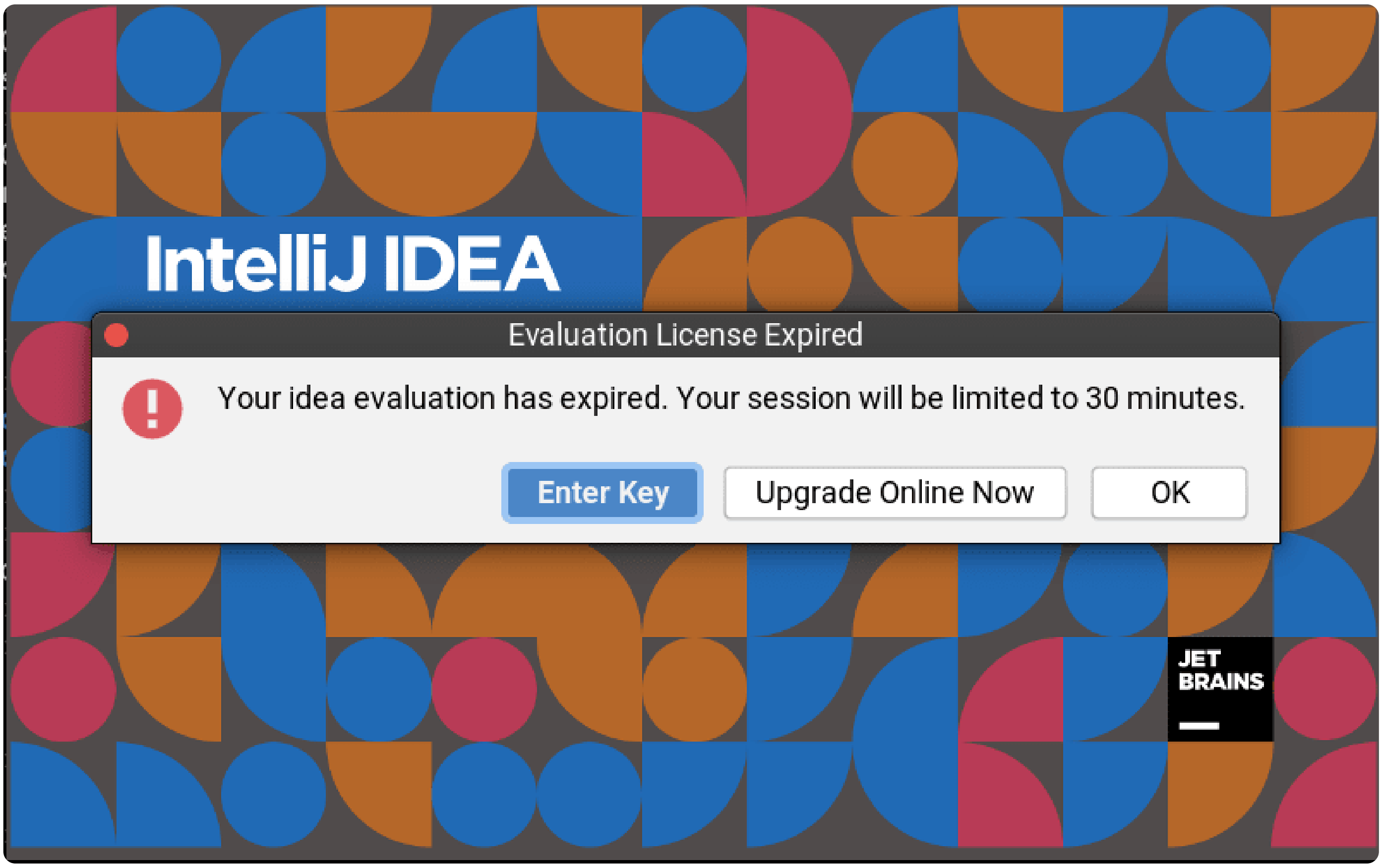
```
Deprecated Gradle features were used in this build, making it incompatible with Gradle 8.0.
Use '--warning-mode all' to show the individual deprecation warnings.
See https://docs.gradle.org/7.0/userguide/command_line_interface.html#sec:command_line_warnings

BUILD SUCCESSFUL in 40s
13 actionable tasks: 13 executed
10:56:12: Task execution finished 'runPluginVerifier'.
```

Using IntelliJ Evaluation Version

I only needed IntelliJ IDEA Ultimate to build this interface theme. As a web developer I rarely use most IDE features, not even in PHPStorm, and I tend to prefer simplistic software like VSCode.

So I was wondering what to do when I needed to update my theme once the evaluation period for IntelliJ has expired?



Evaluation License Expired

Your idea evaluation has expired. Your session will be limited to 30 minutes.

No problem, if I hurry up: "Your idea evaluation has expired. Your session will be limited to 30 minutes." This could turn out to be a great productivity booster, finally adopting the pomodoro technique to slice my work into 25 minute timeboxes? 🍅⏱️😀

But at least I managed to release a theme:

Beta Release: Cute Pink Light Theme 0.1.0

There was no need to deploy to the marketplace, but I want to share. An honest and critical look at the current state makes me choose a low version number (0.1.0).

You can find my theme on GitHub and in JetBrains' official plugin marketplace.

Discussion (3)

Ingo Steinke • Dec 7 '21 • Edited on Dec 7

Update: Release 0.2.3 for IntelliJ IDEA 2021.3 (213) tested and released, still compatible, without any code changes.

Ingo Steinke • Aug 4 '21 • Edited on Aug 4

I made a new release (0.2.1) to confirm compatibility with latest IntelliJ update (2021.2). No new features, only removed a deprecated library, and built and tested with PhpStorm and IntelliJ IDEA Ultimate 2021.2.
Source code and manually installable zip package on GitHub:
github.com/openmindculture/intelli...

Release 0.2.1 will be available in official IntelliJ store soon!

IndyDevGuy • May 20 '21

Great writeup!

Code of Conduct • Report abuse

Ingo Steinke

Web Development, Sustainability, Art and Music, Nature and Travel, Sustainability

LOCATION
Germany

WORK
Creative Web Developer at Ingo Steinke

JOINED
21 Sep 2019

More from Ingo Steinke

Animated Gradient Text Color
#webdev #showdev #css #tutorial

Aspect ratio: no need for container units!
#css #html #webdev #todayilearned

CSS :has(.parent-selectors)
#css #webdev #todayilearned #javascript