

## Using the \$IA\_BROWSE\_FOLDERS\$ Variable to Specify Native or Swing Resources

The InstallAnywhere \$IA\_BROWSE\_FOLDERS\$ variable controls whether InstallAnywhere installers will use **Swing** or **Native** resources to render the **Browse for Folder** dialog box (also called the **Select Folder** dialog box). This distinction is important when localizing an installer.

- Native—When the \$IA\_BROWSE\_FOLDERS\$ variable is set to Native, the installer renders a Browse for Folder dialog box that has a look and feel consistent with the end user's operating system. However, if you choose the Native option, installers running in languages other than the target system's locale will display text in that system's locale rather than in the installer-selected language. For example, if an end user installing an application on a target operating system using the English locale chooses German as the selected language in the installer, some English strings will appear on the Browse for Folder dialog box.
- Swing—When the \$IA\_BROWSE\_FOLDERS\$ variable is set to Swing, the installer renders a Browse for Folder dialog box that uses the correct locale for all languages, and it is consistent across different platforms. However, the dialog box may not provide a fully native experience for end users. It may have a different layout than the standard Browse for Folder dialog box rendered by the end user's operating system.

## **Comparison between Native and Swing Settings**

The following images illustrate the differences between the **Browse for Folder** dialog box rendered with **Native** resources versus **Swing** on Windows and Linux systems.



## Figure 1: Native (Left) vs. Swing (Right) Resources on Windows

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12	Select a Folder	X	12		Select a Folder	×
Folder: V			Look in	1		
bin boot dev etc home list+found media mnt opt proc root sbin selinux srv			bin boot dev tc bome lib lost+fou media File name Files of type	i sγs Ω	tmp usr var	Select Cancel
Selected:		Cancel OK				

Figure 2: Native (Left) vs. Swing (Right) Resources on Linux

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