code_file (migration step)

Source file: doc/eng-us/examples/migration-steps/code_file.md Last changed 2026-11-04
https://doc.exponential.earth/learninminutes/exphelp/viewer/examples/migration-steps/code_file.md

code_file

Writes, replaces or removes one code or design file below the allowed folders, with a backup and checksums.

A step of a YAML migration with `type: code_file`. The class `expMigrationStepCodeFile` (`kernel/classes/migration/steps/expmigrationstepcodefile.php`) is registered in `settings/migration.ini` `[StepSettings] StepTypeList[code_file]`.

Modes

`mode:` is one of `create`, `update`, `ensure`, `delete`; without it, `ensure`.

Keys

Key	Type	Modes	Default	What it is
path	string	all	required	the file, relative to the installation, below a folder of [FileStepSettings] AllowedRootList[] (design, extension)
source	string	create, update, ensure		the new content: a file below the folder of the migration file (files/page.tpl)
content	string	create, update, ensure		the new content itself (instead of source:)
checksum	string	create, update, ensure		the SHA-256 the new content must have (64 hex digits)
expect	string	all		the SHA-256 the file must have before the step, or absent: it must not exist

Besides these, every step takes the keys of the engine: `type`, `mode`, `if`, `references`, `environments`, `engines` and `comment` (the file format). A key of type `identifier` names a node, an object or another part of the installation by id, remote id, path or name (identifiers).

Values for references

`references: { <name>: <value> }` keeps a value of the step's result as `${ref.<name>}` for the steps and migrations after it:

Value	What it is
path	the file, relative to the installation
changed	true when the file changed
before	its SHA-256 before (empty: it did not exist)

Value	What it is
`after`	its SHA-256 after (empty: removed)

Undoing

Every step of this type undoes itself when its migration is rolled back without `down:`.

It touches no cache.

Example

YAML

```yaml
- type: code_file
  mode: ensure
  path: design/mysite/templates/page_footer.tpl
  source: files/page_footer.tpl
```

Related

- All step types
- YAML migration steps

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