Creating the container for a custom template

On this page

- Embedding a custom template in a model
- Creating the model for storing a custom template

A custom template can be stored in one of two ways depending on how you intend to use it:

- **Embedded into a specific model** - use this method if you intend to apply a template only to one specific model.
- **Stored as a separate newly created .mdzip file** - use this method if you intend to apply a template to multiple models.

Once your template has a container, you can start creating or modifying its content.

Embedding a custom template in a model

To embed a template in a model, you need to create the Package for storing the template.

To create the package for storing a custom template

1. In the **Containment** tree, right-click on the **Model** element, and select **Create Element** > **Package**.
2. In the open text box, enter the package name (e.g. *Company templates).*

Now that you have the container for your embedded template, you can start to define its content.

Creating the model for storing a custom template

If you want to reuse a custom template in multiple models, the best option is to create the template as a separate .mdzip file. Using this method allows you to create your template from scratch as a completely new model, or make a copy of a predefined or another existing template, and then modify its content.
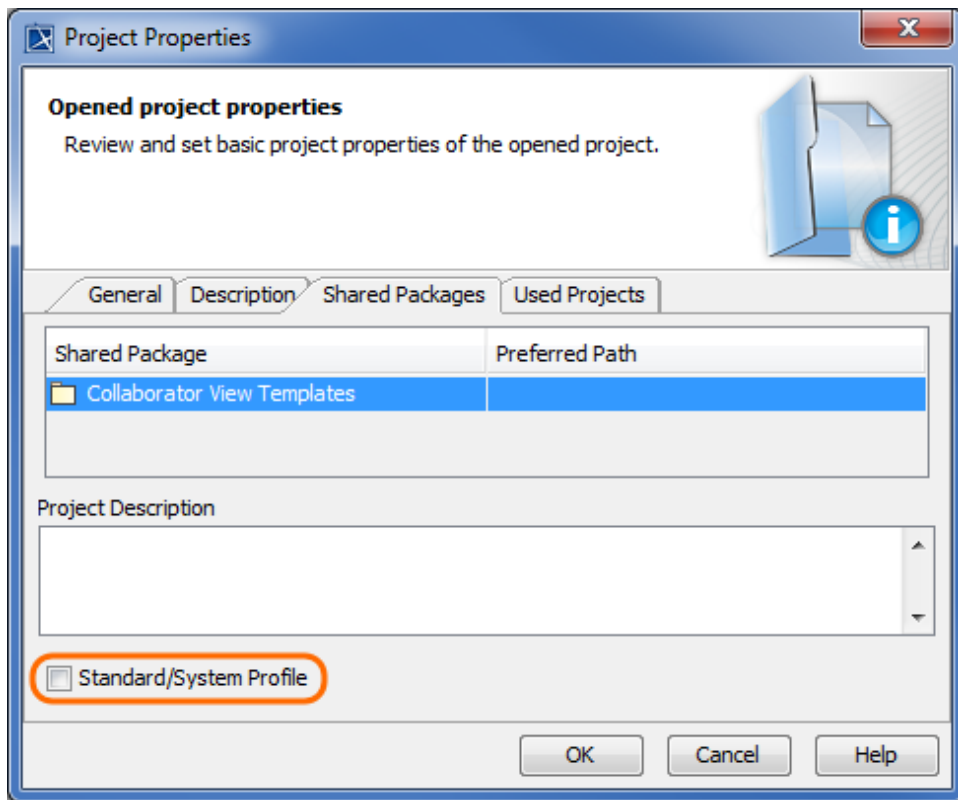
> **Recommendation**
> Although you can create a completely new custom template, it is highly recommended that you modify the copy of a predefined template instead. It is a quicker method, since you can reuse the elements that are already created, and easily remove the elements that you don't need.

To create a new model for storing a custom template

1. Open your modeling tool, and create a new model
2. In the created model, use the *Document View Collaborator Profile*. Select it from the list in the *<install.root>\profiles* predefined location.
3. Save the model in the *modelLibraries* folder of the installation directory of your modeling tool (recommended option), or another location dedicated for storing custom templates.

To create the copy of a predefined template for storing a custom template

1. Open the desired predefined template from the *modelLibriaries* folder located in installation directory of your modeling tool.
2. Clear the **Standard/System Profile** check box in the **Project Properties** dialog, or a warning will appear regarding changing system files.

   a. In the main menu, go to **File** > **Project Properties**.
   b. In the **Project Properties** dialog, select the **Shared Packages** tab.
   c. Clear the **Standard/System Profile** check box.

        d. Click **OK** and save the template.
3. In the main menu, select **File** > **Save Project As**, enter a new name for your template, and then click the **Save** button.

> **Important**
> NOT change a predefined template. If you want to customize a predefined template, first create a copy of this template with a different name, and then modify the newly created template file.

Now that you have created the container for storing your template, learn how to create or modify the content of a custom template.

Related pages

- Creating or modifying the content of a custom template

Additional resources

- Webinar *Creating Templates in Cameo Collaborator*
- User Guide for Creating Cameo Collaborator Templates