

# What compile options and properties do you recommend for migrations?

Author: Veryant Support

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Each COBOL dialect has specific recommendations for compile options as well as other variables, copybook, data, routines, etc. in their own transitioning guide.

These guides are found in the Transitioning to isCOBOL documentation available at [www.veryant.com](http://www.veryant.com).

For instance, here are some general guidelines:

Use the **-cX** option, where X is specific to your current COBOL vendor, to include multiple adjustments to isCOBOL to be compatible with your current applications without making code changes.

Use **-ce=cpy** to specify .cpy as the default file extension for copybooks.

Use **-rw=word1,word2,word3** to remove reserved words. For example, **-rw=PRINTER,HIGHLIGHT** will remove PRINTER and HIGHLIGHT as reserved words.

Use **-sp=path1;path2;path3** to specify paths to your copybooks.

If you have an environment variable such as COBCPY that contains a list of directories containing copybooks, you can add **-sp=\$COBCPY** or **-sp=%COBCPY%**

If you have mixed source files in Fixed and Terminal formats, the **-smat** option might be necessary.

In addition to the above list we recommend **-b -cp -cv -di -m1** for the following reasons:

- b improves performance in applications that do not require Unicode

- cp allows full support of USAGE POINTER, ADDRESS OF and pointer arithmetic, also allows negative subscripting

- di initializes working-storage items (that do not have a VALUE clause) according to their type, alphanumeric items to the value specified with -dv, numeric items to ZEROES, and table indexes to 1

- m1 puts all WORKING-STORAGE into a contiguous block of memory

Contact Veryant Support for help determining the correct compile options and properties to use for your project.