

# Araxis Compare Files Action

The [Araxis Compare Files Compare](#) action uses the preferences set inside the Araxis Merge application to determine comparison options.



Comparing folders with large contents can take a long time to complete.

On this page:

## File Compare

The screenshot shows the 'Araxis Compare Files' dialog box with the 'File Compare' tab selected. The dialog has three main sections: 'Files', 'Report', and 'Behaviour'. In the 'Files' section, there are three text boxes for file paths, each with a folder icon to its right. The first two boxes contain 'C:\Projects\SimpleProject\Src\BranchA\%L\_File%' and 'C:\Projects\SimpleProject\Src\BranchB\%L\_File%'. Below them is a label 'Third file for three-way comparison (optional):' followed by a third text box containing 'C:\Projects\SimpleProject\Src\CommonParent\%L\_File%'. In the 'Report' section, there is a checkbox 'Save a report to file:' which is checked, followed by a text box containing 'C:\Projects\SimpleProject\Src\Reports\Comp\%L\_Exists%\_Comp' and a folder icon. Below this is a 'Report format:' label with four radio buttons: 'XML' (selected), 'HTML', 'HTML slideshow', and 'Diff'. In the 'Behaviour' section, there are two checkboxes: 'Fail if the files are different' (checked) and 'Fail if the files are the same' (unchecked). At the bottom right, there are three buttons: 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

**Araxis Compare Files**

General Runtime **File Compare**

**Files**

C:\Projects\SimpleProject\Src\BranchA\%L\_File%

C:\Projects\SimpleProject\Src\BranchB\%L\_File%

Third file for three-way comparison (optional):

C:\Projects\SimpleProject\Src\CommonParent\%L\_File%

**Report**

☒ Save a report to file: C:\Projects\SimpleProject\Src\Reports\Comp\%L\_Exists%\_Comp

Report format: ☒ XML ☐ HTML ☐ HTML slideshow ☐ Diff

**Behaviour**

☒ Fail if the files are different

☐ Fail if the files are the same

OK Cancel Help

## Files

Araxis Merge can compare either two or three files, generating a two- or three-way comparison report.

### File Left

The first file to compare. If opened in the viewer it would appear on the left.

### File Right

The second file to compare. If opened in the view it would appear on the right.

## **File Common Origin**

The third file to compare. This should be a common version of the file between the first and second files for comparison. This file is optional, if not specified only a two-way comparison is performed.

## **Report**

Araxis Merge can optionally save a comparison report in XML, HTML or Diff format. See the Araxis Merge documentation for details on each format.

### **Save a report to file**

Specify this option to save the report file to a named location and file. The report will contain all the information about the two-way, or three-way comparison.

### **Report format**

Specify the format in which the report should be saved.

## **Behavior**

The action can be set to fail if the files are different, fail if they are the same, or fail only on errors (if neither box is checked.)

### **Fail if the files are different**

If any differences are detected the action will fail.

### **Fail if the files are the same**

If the files are found to be identical the action will fail.