

# What algorithm does isCOBOL use to load framework properties (runtime config variables)?

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1. Read system environment variables such as those set with SET VAR=VAL. In this case the prefix "iscobol." is stripped from the name before it is looked up for the environment.
2. Read properties from /etc/iscobol.properties if it exists
3. Read properties from %HOMEPATH%/iscobol.properties if it exists
4. Read the first iscobol.properties found in CLASSPATH
5. Read the file specified in the command line as the value of the iscobol.conf property if it exists. iscobol.conf cannot be set in the environment (i.e. isCOBOL does not read the CONF environment variable).
6. Read iscobol.properties file found in \$ISCOBOL directory, if it exists.
7. Read properties specified directly with -Discobol.\* on the java command line

In the above, %HOMEPATH% is the user's home directory, and the iscobol.conf value can be the path of a regular disk file, a URL or the name of a class. When the name of a class is specified, isCOBOL searches for a file called iscobol.properties in the same directory or jar file that the class is located in.