

# Setting an Environment Variable in Current Shell

Use the "dot space script" calling syntax. For example, here's how to do it using the full path to a script:

```
. /path/to/set_env_vars.sh
```

These execute the script under the current shell instead of loading another one (which is what would happen if you did `./set_env_vars.sh`). Because it runs in the same shell, the environmental variables you set will be available when it exits.

This is the same thing as calling `source set_env_vars.sh`, but it's shorter to type and might work in some places where `source` doesn't.

```
source set_env_vars.sh
```

## Reference

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/496702/can-a-shell-script-set-environment-variables-of-the-calling-shell>