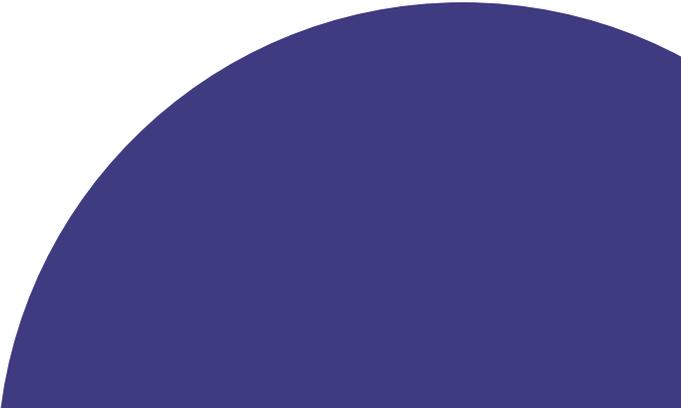
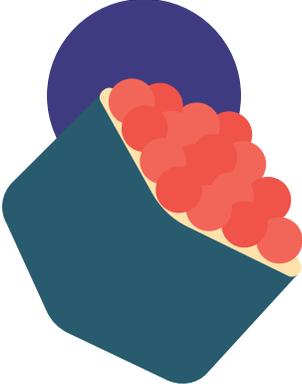


THE PROJECT MANAGER'S GUIDE TO ATLASSIAN APPS



Discover the Finest Ingredients for
Project Management Success in
Confluence and Jira



Jira is the number one project management tool for agile teams. Originally built for software development, Jira is now found in every corner of the office, including IT, marketing, finance, and human resources.

However, with many teams of all shapes and sizes working together, it can be challenging for everyone to digest it all. More projects come with more customized fields, more subtasks, more complex workflows, and Jira can only do so much.

That's where the Atlassian Marketplace comes in. Thousands of third-party apps are available in the Atlassian Marketplace to spice up your workflows and customize Jira to your business needs.

Think of Jira as a massive kitchen filled with versatile tools and hidden ingredients. It's your job to utilize them to create the perfect project management recipe that your teams will love.

From visualizing your ideas with **Gliffy Diagram**, breaking down tasks and visualizing dependencies with **WBS Gantt-Charts**, to getting things done via **Automation for Jira**, you've already swallowed half of the project cycle without any hiccups.

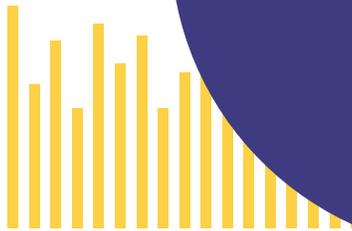
Need to revise tasks from the original plan without going through them one by one? Simply use **Excel-like Issue Editor**. And the best part?

Multiple business units can work together seamlessly via **Comala Workflows**, without suffering from information silos. On the other side of the table, your technical team can perform test management with **Zephyr** simultaneously as the project progresses.

With all this cross-functional work, it can be difficult to keep track of everything that your teams are cooking up. Apps like **Email This Issue for Jira** can help you ensure a transparent, collaborative environment. Don't forget to optimize your team's performance through **Tempo Timesheets**, and predict potential bottlenecks based on the time spent on every task. Mixed with the powerful measurement tools from **eazyBI**, you can capture actionable data to serve up suggestions for the next iteration.

It just takes a few basic ingredients to transform your Jira experience. It may sound overwhelming at first, that's why we put together **The Project Manager's Guide to Atlassian Apps** to help you make the most of the Atlassian Marketplace. In this comprehensive guidebook, you will discover the finest ingredients for project management success in Confluence and Jira.

OVERVIEW



Let's start with some refreshment, shall we?

This guide covers the best project management apps
for both Jira and Confluence.



Jira Software is the most powerful project management tool for agile teams.



Confluence is an open and accessible content collaboration hub, helping your teams and your company do their best work.

The match-made functionalities of Jira and Confluence make a dynamic content and collaboration hub, which is especially valuable for large-scale projects. By blending them together, you can save time on the critical aspects of project management, such as file sharing, issue tracking, information discovery, company announcements, and progress tracking. We have handpicked the best ingredients for both platforms so that you can leverage the Atlassian ecosystem to get things done to perfection, one phase at a time.

Similar to cooking a meal, any project has a procedure to follow. At the beginning, project managers approach the project scope by breaking the tasks down into digestible pieces in Jira. Once that's done, they can add on ingredients to complement the workflow depending on the team's requirements. Below, we've mapped out the best solutions by the core phases of the project life cycle.

CONTENTS





**PROJECT
INITIATION &
PLANNING**

An experienced chef knows when to increase the heat and when to bring the dish to simmer so that it is perfectly cooked. That's the art of planning. The purpose of any plan is to minimize uncertainty. Having a project roadmap allows you to visualize the optimum order of tasks for a smooth flow, as well as the team capacity to accomplish them. This principle applies to project management with regards to idea validation. One of the biggest loopholes in a project lies in the specification verifying process. As a project manager, you need to ensure the project fulfills business' requirements, especially if it involves regulatory compliances.

The planning phase is the bread and butter of every project, and its goal is to ensure:

- Stakeholder buy-in
- Effective workload and resource planning
- Collaborative environment
- Reasonable deliverables





GLIFFY DIAGRAM FOR CONFLUENCE



Use Gliffy Diagram to visualize ideas and processes right within the Confluence page.

Just as powerful as lucidchart or draw.io, Gliffy Diagram offers a comprehensive solution to diagramming for Confluence at an unbeatable price.

You can draw virtually anything that helps teams visualize their work, from creative and design solutions, business communication, to software development.

Gliffy is excellent for designing flowcharts, UI wireframes, network diagrams, unified modeling language, AWS architecture, and business process models among others – with version history for project

retrospective. And it is trusted by global enterprises like NASA, Adobe, and Cisco, to name a few.

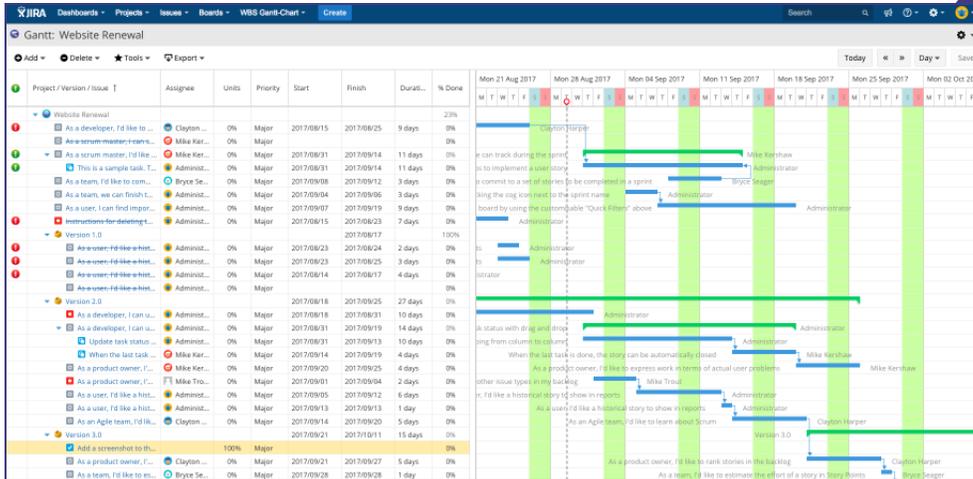
Deeply integrated with Confluence, Gliffy Diagram turns your Confluence page into a giant canvas for ideation and workflow conceptualization, through which dispersed teams can stay aligned on the scope and requirements. Any visual asset can be templated for future planning, enabling you to link a relevant diagram to a new Jira issue almost instantly.

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WBS GANTT-CHART FOR JIRA



Need a simple way to create a project roadmap and manage task dependencies? WBS Gantt-Chart for Jira does exactly that and even more.

When it comes to managing enterprise-scale projects, Jira suffers from one deficiency – the lack of a big picture view. WBS Gantt-Chart for Jira solves this by giving project managers a granular work breakdown structure (WBS). This app gives you clear visibility into team capacity and how their tasks affect one another via dependency visualization.

Just drag and drop to schedule or update tasks, and then hit save to instantly sync all the changes with Jira. Need to modify an issue on the roadmap? No problem. WBS Gantt-Chart will automatically update dependent tasks to reflect the original timeline.

Once you've laid out a project plan in WBS Gantt-Chart, your team can enjoy a delay-free responsive working environment. You're able to monitor progress based on critical path view and baseline plans. In other words, you can promptly adjust priorities at any point to ensure you meet project deliverable dates.

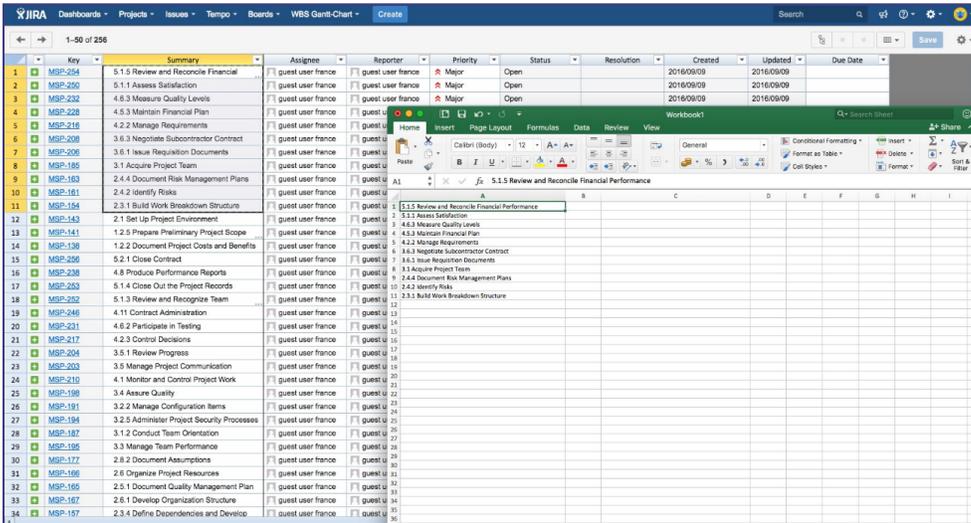
WBS Gantt-Chart for Jira is the most compelling replacement to Microsoft Project for project planning. It is home to some of the most innovative teams from various industries, such as Space X, Toyota, Google, and Bosch.

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EXCEL-LIKE ISSUE EDITOR FOR JIRA



No more bulk-change frustration, Excel-like Issue Editor allows you to navigate Jira projects via a built-in spreadsheet.

If you enjoy the powerful analytics function of Excel, you'll love the Excel-like Issue Editor for Jira. The app not only converts your project plan into a spreadsheet but also enables a hierarchy view for epics and subtasks so that you can make changes to your plan on the fly. It's capable of sorting and filtering issue

data, freezing columns, and inline editing. Simply click and update, or even import or export data to Excel, to transform Jira the way you expect. Now you can edit multiple tickets simultaneously, efficiently, and more quickly in one window.

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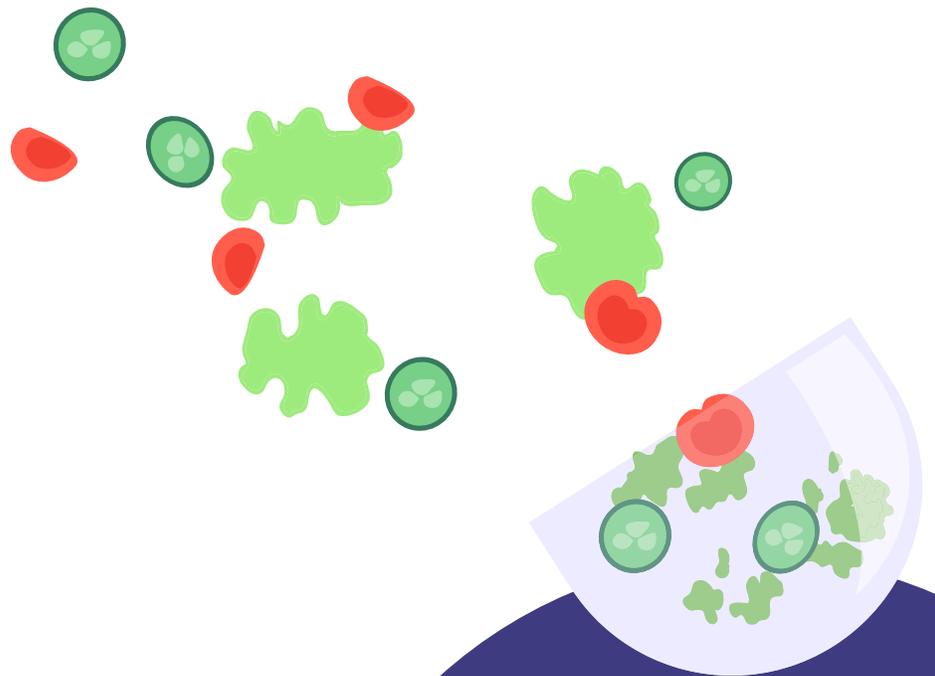
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PROJECT EXECUTION

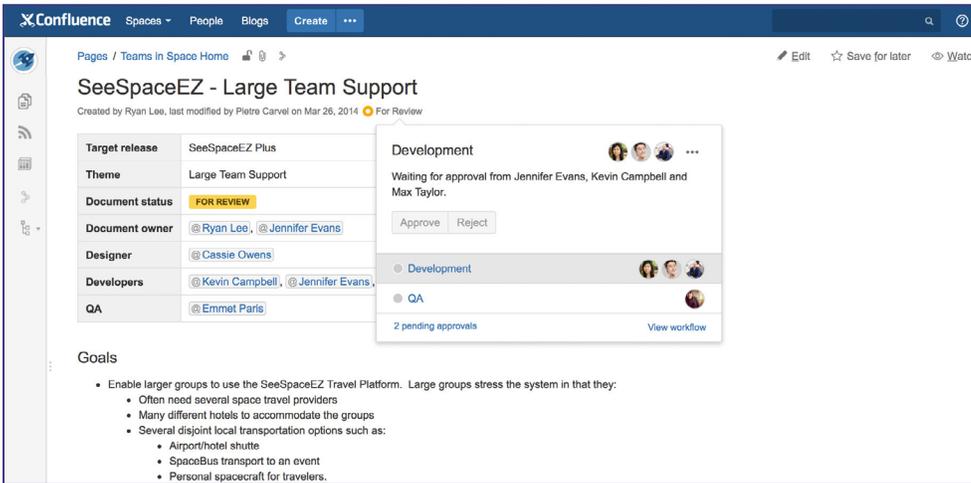
Now that you've completed your project plan, it's time to roll up your sleeves and get your hands dirty! This is where Jira apps can do wonders. Think of them as extra seasoning to enhance your dish's flavor.

Regardless of the nature of your business, there are thousands of apps that can adapt Jira to the way your team works. Your role as a project manager is to select and blend all these ingredients well to ensure smooth execution. In turn, your teams can focus on delivering the outcomes (growth), rather than outputs (number of tasks done).





COMALA WORKFLOWS FOR CONFLUENCE



The first important step is to design the ideal workflows that replicate your team's existing processes. Let's learn how Comala Workflows helps you achieve this.

In almost any cross-functional team, a complex feedback loop often exists between the product owner and stakeholders. While Jira's native workflow customization is a good start to personalizing your Jira experience, it's a daunting task as you'll need to add custom events for specific workflow transitions. This means that, if a particular release requires feedback from multiple reviewers, you'll have to keep adding on new approval layers, making the task unnecessarily complicated.

team members will be notified when there is a pending approval, and the creator can keep track of the approval trail.

Comala Workflows makes it easy to create rule-based processes. All you have to do is assign users' roles and access permissions to trigger the exact approval stages needed. With this process automation, your

The app is ideal for teams that work on projects with rigid regulatory compliance, for instance, ISO 9001 or FDA. You can import these technical documents into your Confluence page, and have it integrated into the workflows so that teams can have a single source of truth for their work.

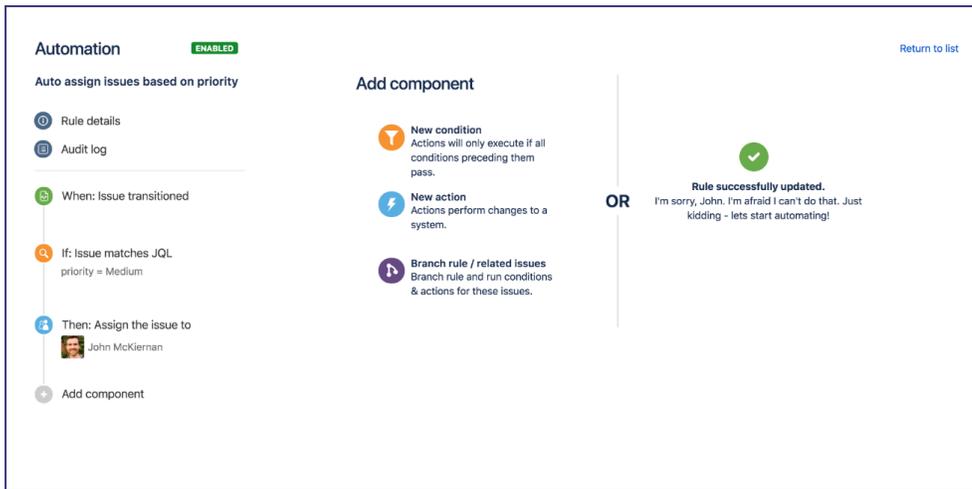
Companies like KLM, ANZ, or PayPal have already tried Comala Workflows to accomplish their projects. What about you?

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AUTOMATION FOR JIRA



Agile teams demand faster, frictionless project management software to do more with less. Automation for Jira is one app that lets you codify processes and improve productivity.

Imagine having to assign hundreds of tasks across different teams manually; it will probably eat up a good hour of your daily work. That's where Automation for Jira comes in. From auto-assigning tasks to syncing subtasks on transition, managing projects in Jira has never been easier. For instance, if an issue contains "user interface" with the status "test," it will be assigned to the tester.

With multiple built-in conditions and triggers, there's no script required to run automation rules. It's extremely simple for you to automate task with zero

coding knowledge. For instance, to reopen a task if a customer posts a comment to an old support ticket. Plus, it integrates with communication tools like Slack and Hipchat to enable direct messages when a bug is raised.

Those are just some of the many use cases for Automation for Jira. You can further expand the app's features with various custom rules depending on the project's needs. Automation for Jira has been tried and trusted by the most prominent teams on the planet, such as Amazon, Atlassian, and Uber, among others.

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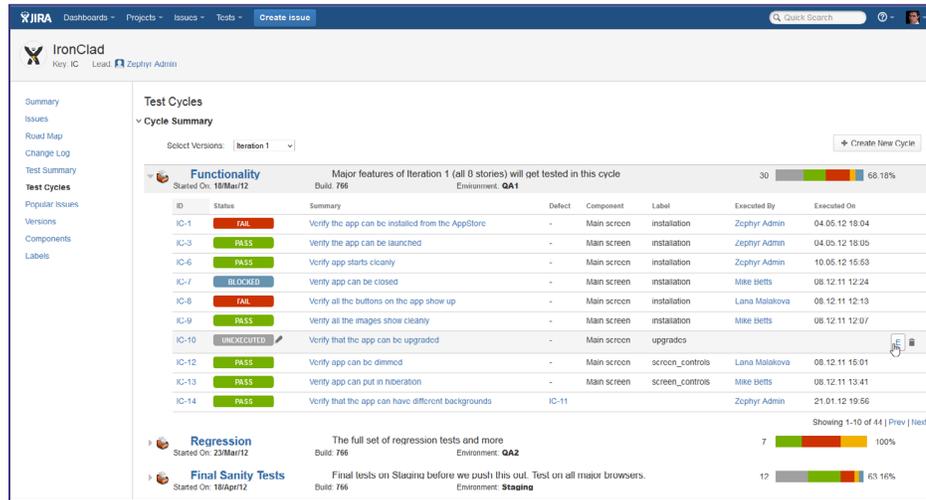
PROJECT DELIVERY

The only way to perfect a recipe is to constantly taste and modify it. Likewise, there is no surefire way to determine release quality without testing and QA. With an integrated test management system in Jira, you can ensure the deliverables are met while maintaining team velocity. It's also critical to perform a retrospective to discuss what works well and what doesn't. Clear definition of project scope and on-going communication are keys to a successful project.





ZEPHYR FOR JIRA - TEST MANAGEMENT



Test management is integral to any project, especially for the software development team. Zephyr is the most widely used app to track quality and make informed decisions on a task's status.

Having a full-fledged test management system integrated into Jira helps teams deploy faster. With the ability to plan test execution cycles and structure test cases, Zephyr helps to improve the quality of releases, right within Jira's agile dashboard.

created as an assigned task to Jira users. You can utilize its test metrics report to gain more profound insights into every issue, to get a better sense of what has been tested and the level of quality, and link features between test cycles and sprints.

The app features end-to-end traceability, enabling test engineers to keep pace with continuous delivery. Zephyr is the only agile-ready test management software that works like Jira, for instance, a bug fix is

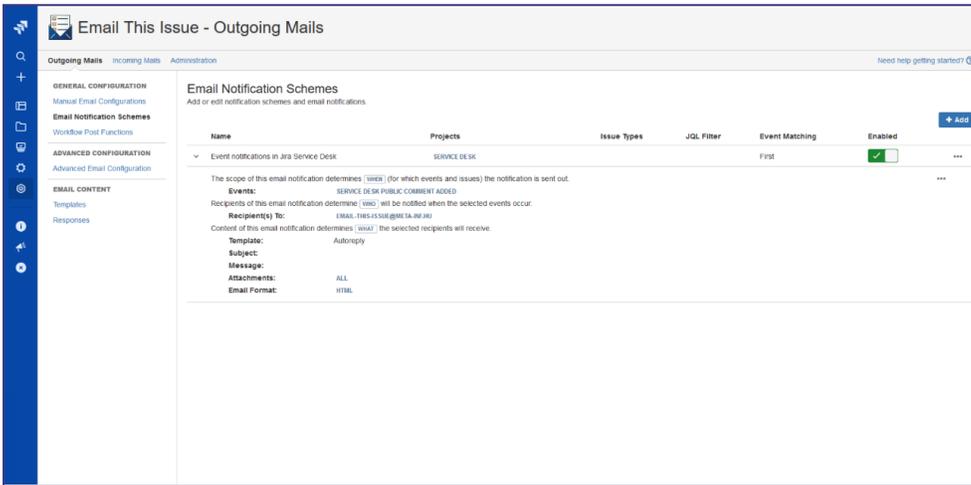
From Honda and IBM to HSBC, countless companies are leveraging Zephyr's continuous testing agility to increase speed and reliability for project management with Jira.

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EMAIL THIS ISSUE



Streamline your communication flow with Email This Issue, a secured email collaboration app for Jira.

Email This Issue removes the hassle of switching between Jira instances and email threads so that teams can focus on value-added tasks.

The app features multiple support functions that allow users to trigger an email from a workflow transition, create rule-based event notifications, send issue details to users and non-users, and notify contacts via automated emails. You can choose from the gallery of email templates to customize the email content.

Incoming emails will be processed as new issues or comments, which means you don't have to initialize issue fields manually. Furthermore, it's possible to search for issues related to emails by fields.

Communication with internal and external stakeholders is made manageable and traceable with Email This Issue. Some of the biggest companies under its wings include Booking.com, Boeing, and Siemens.

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PROJECT MONITORING AND REPORTS

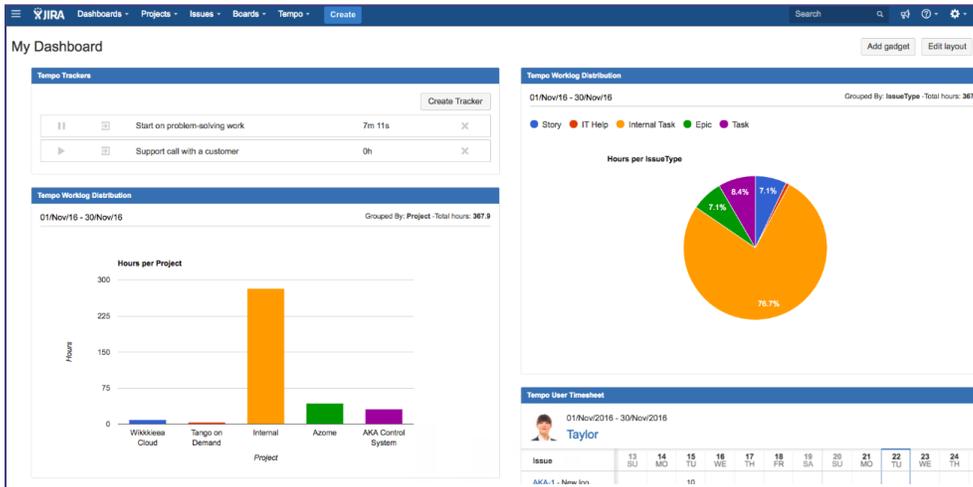


Inevitably, projects hit roadblocks due to time and resource constraints. In addition to measuring the quality and speed of delivery, it's vital that you pay attention to the team's productivity as well. With Jira, you can optimize resource management with a simple time tracking tool, evaluate release plans or reassign work as necessary.





TEMPO TIMESHEETS



Time allocation is a weighty measure of a project's likeliness to meet the deadline. Therefore, teams rely on Tempo Timesheets to plan their time and log work directly in Jira.

To manage rapid iteration on a tight deadline, you need a smart time-tracking solution. Tempo Timesheets is the most reliable tool that can fulfill this job. Using it is as simple as dragging and dropping issues to log work into the calendar; updates will automatically be reflected on your Jira dashboard. Otherwise, users can launch a time tracker as they work in Jira and then convert it into a worklog.

Tempo Timesheets lets you review time logged for issues, projects, teams, users, accounts or even custom Jira filters. You can quickly get a granular view of the

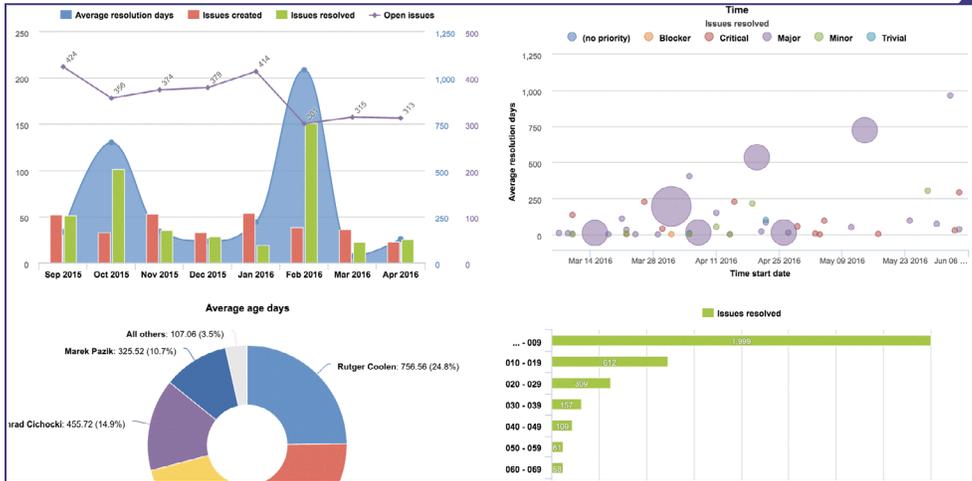
team's progress via the Tempo dashboard. First, define a period; then you can drill down on the elements that are important to your executive reports.

The app is also capable of creating billable or non-billable customer accounts for invoicing. For transparency and accuracy, there is an additional layer of timesheets review and approval. Any action on a user's worksheet will be recorded on a log for traceability as well. The app is trusted by 10,000+ companies including Electronic Arts, Sony, and AT&T.

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EAZYBI REPORTS AND CHARTS FOR JIRA



This is the go-to app for custom Jira reports, charts, and dashboard gadgets. eazyBI gives you the power to analyze every aspect of the project with dynamic data visualization.

Bring business intelligence solutions to Jira with this comprehensive reporting app. eazyBI offers a rich library of chart types, making it as easy as pie to capture and visualize your data. Its interactive drag-and-drop interface makes it extremely easy to create pivot tables, line graphs, pie charts, etc., from Jira standard or custom fields, all within your Jira dashboard.

You can also utilize the app's predefined calculated measures, or define your own formula, to generate

sophisticated data for high-level reporting. With eazyBI's deep integration with the Atlassian ecosystem, you can build virtually any report that delivers the insights you need. It supports Jira Software, Jira Service Desk, Tempo Timesheets, as well as Zephyr test management.

EazyBI is a powerful BI tool that ignites strategic business solutions. With brands like Verizon, Logitech, and BBC listed among its customer base, you are in good company.

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CONCLUSION



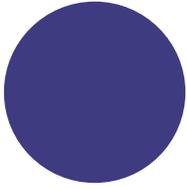
Depending on your organization's project management practices, some Atlassian apps may fit better than others. Our selection of the best Jira apps is based on their broad capabilities and use cases for all project management professionals. Which means, regardless of your project types, you'll be able to enjoy the value of these powerful, productivity-boosting add-ons.

Want more practical tips for Jira? Read our guide on ["7 Powerful Hacks for Jira Project Management."](#) You'll discover new ways to put together world-class projects in Jira and manage them more effectively.



ABOUT US

Ricksoft provides add-ons for Atlassian Jira and Confluence to help customers to manage their project and contents. WBS Gantt-Chart for Jira is popular and our flagship product. Ricksoft is also a Platinum Solution Partner in Japan and got an award Top New Business APAC in 2015 and 2016.



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