Jira - Project Management Tool

I, as a project manager would like to use and leverage Jira as my project management tool and I am quoting the top reason why?

1. It's mature and proven

JIRA is an issue tracker developed by Atlassian in 2002. Atlassian's customer list is extremely impressive and it includes over 40,000 companies of all shapes and sizes. JIRA Agile debuted six years ago and since then has developed as a major offering for agile-driven teams. There are lots of people familiar with the tool, and the community is large and active.

2. It's extremely customizable

Since it's used in different industries for different purposes (issue tracking, project management, support), JIRA has evolved into a feature-rich, highly customizable solution. Issue types, fields, states and workflows have sensible defaults that can be changed to suit your needs. JIRA Agile, popular JIRA addon, provides Scrum and Kanban support for jira for project management out of the box. We use the hybrid approach, known as Scrumban, which combines both approaches, as neither solution fits our needs. Nevertheless, we were able to customize JIRA to suit our needs by creating custom issue schemes and workflows. It works like a charm, is really powerful and it just helps us a lot in our everyday development struggles.

3. Wholesome ecosystem

An issue tracker is simply not enough to meet modern software development management requirements. We were also looking for a wiki (Confluence), CI (Bamboo) and DVCS (Stash) management tools. Having a whole ecosystem of integrated tools brings long term benefits. The ability to create and track issues from Confluence pages, view Git commits and build status related to a particular JIRA issue works out of the box.

4. Extensibility- including time tracking tool

JIRA is an enterprise solution and as such comes with powerful integration possibilities. We use Slack on a daily basis, so the obvious move was to have JIRA updates pushed to our Slack channel, and now we enjoy real time notifications on JIRA issue events.

Atlassian runs a marketplace as well, where you can find free and paid plugins providing extensions to JIRA and other Atlassian products. JIRA alone has almost a thousand plugins available. For us, the most useful plugin turned out to be Tempo Timesheet – a powerful time tracker. The time tracking JIRA tool is very much worthwhile.

If you are in need of something really specific, you can always develop your own plugin (Java) or, for simpler jira for project management tasks, use the excellent ScriptRunner plugin (Groovy).

5. It's less expensive for small teams

Atlassian products are available in SaaS and on-premise models, which gives you the ability to choose the one that suits you best.

JIRA and JIRA Agile cost only $10 per month (cloud version) or a $10 one-time payment (on-premise license) for the first 10 users, which gives startups a great value-to-cost ratio. The pricing model is transparent and available online, so you can easily predict the necessary investments as your organization grows

Despite being super easy to use,there are certain downsides , Jira has too many features and it gets complex when we try to customize and there are other alternatives in the Market like Trello, but considering our budget and project requirements. I strongly believe Jira would suffice and serve the purpose.