

# Introduction to JIRA & Agile Project Management

## Overview of JIRA

- **What is JIRA?**
  - JIRA is a popular project management and issue-tracking software developed by Atlassian.
  - Used for Agile software development (Scrum/Kanban), bug tracking, project planning, and product management.
- **Use Cases:**
  - Agile Sprint Planning
  - Bug/Issue Tracking
  - Requirement & Task Management
  - Reporting and Metrics
  - CI/CD integration (e.g., Jenkins)
- **Architecture:**
  - JIRA Core (Business Projects)
  - JIRA Software (Agile Boards)
  - JIRA Service Management (ITSM)
- **JIRA Ecosystem:**
  - Atlassian Confluence, Bitbucket, Trello, Bamboo

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## Agile Concepts Refresher

- Scrum vs Kanban
- Epics, Stories, Tasks, Sub-tasks
- Product Backlog, Sprint Backlog, Sprint
- Agile ceremonies: Sprint Planning, Standups, Review, Retrospective

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## **JIRA Setup in Corporate Environment**

- Cloud vs On-Premise (JIRA Data Center)
- Creating an Atlassian Cloud Account
- Setting up a new project
- User Roles and Permissions
- Adding team members

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## **JIRA Projects**

- Classic vs Next-Gen (Team Managed vs Company Managed)
- Project Types: Scrum, Kanban, Bug Tracking
- Project Settings: Workflows, Screens, Fields, Notifications

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## **Creating and Managing Issues**

- Issue Types: Story, Bug, Task, Sub-task, Epic
- Creating Issues manually
- Bulk Import using CSV
- Linking Issues
- Assigning issues, setting priority and estimates

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## **Boards and Backlogs**

- Creating Scrum/Kanban Boards
- Configuring Columns
- Managing Product and Sprint Backlogs
- Starting and Ending Sprints

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## 1. Introduction: Agile, Scrum & Why Jira?

- **Agile** is a philosophy rooted in the **Agile Manifesto**—core values include early delivery, close collaboration, adaptability, and simplicity
- **Scrum** is a lightweight Agile framework built around short iterations called **sprints**, cross-functional teams, and ceremonies like Daily Scrum, Sprint Review, and Retrospective
- **Jira**—developed by Atlassian—is the #1 tool for Agile teams. It supports backlog grooming, sprint planning, boards, reporting, integrations, and much more

## 2. Scrum Roles & Artifacts

### Roles:

- **Product Owner (PO)**: owns backlog, prioritizes features.
- **Scrum Master (SM)**: facilitates ceremonies, removes impediments.
- **Development Team**: cross-functional and self-organizing

### Artifacts:

- **Product Backlog**: ordered list of features/user stories.
- **Sprint Backlog**: subset of backlog items selected for a sprint.
- **Sprint Increment**: deliverable output at end of sprint.
- **Burndown Chart, Velocity Chart, Cumulative Flow Diagram, Control Chart** as tools to visualize progress

## 3. Jira Issue Hierarchy & Issue Types

- Hierarchies can include: **Initiatives → Epics → Stories/Tasks → Sub-tasks**. Useful for scaling or SAFe-like frameworks
- **Issue Types** in Jira: *Epic, Story, Task, Bug, Sub-task*.
- Use consistent naming and issue description practices to maintain clarity and traceability

## 4. Setting Up Jira for Scrum

- Start by creating a **Scrum project** using Jira's Scrum template. This provides Backlog, Board, Reports, Roadmap view by default .
- Choose between **Team-managed (Next-gen)** or **Company-managed (Classic)** projects based on control and scale needs.
- Configure **Workflows, Fields, Screens, and Notifications** to match your team's process.

- Integrate with tools like **Confluence**, **Bitbucket**, or CI/CD to close the loop between documentation and execution.

## 5. Using Jira with Scrum

### Backlog Management:

- **Create and refine user stories** in the backlog. Good user story structure: *As a [user], I want [goal], so that [value]* .
- Prioritize stories by **drag-and-drop** in backlog.

### Sprint Planning:

- Select backlog items into a spring-ready sprint.
- Estimate using **story points** or **time estimates** depending on team preference.
- Define **Sprint Goal** and prepare for Daily Stand-up.

### During Sprint:

- Team members move issues across board columns: *To Do* → *In Progress* → *Code Review* → *Done*.
- Update **time estimates**, use **labels**, **comments**, and **attachments** to track progress.

### Sprint Closure:

- Complete the sprint and view **Sprint Report**, **Burndown**, **Velocity**, **Cumulative Flow Diagrams** in Jira's Reports section to inspect progress and adoption .

## 6. Reporting & Analytics in Jira

### Standard Reports:

Report	Purpose
<b>Burndown Chart</b>	Visualizes remaining effort vs time
<b>Velocity Chart</b>	Tracks team capacity over multiple sprints
<b>Cumulative Flow Diagram</b>	Shows flow of issues through statuses
<b>Control Chart</b>	Analyzes cycle time variability
<b>Sprint Report / Pie Chart Report</b>	Highlights completed vs open issues, distribution by assignee/status

## 7. Plugins, Automation & Best Practices

### **Plugins to Enhance Reporting:**

- **EazyBI, Rich Filters, Custom Charts for Jira, Structure for Jira**—great for advanced visualizations and multi-level reporting.

### **Automation Ideas:**

- Auto-assign high-priority bugs to QA Lead.
- Auto-escalate overdue tasks or send reminders.
- Use Jira's built-in Automation or marketplace add-ons.

### **Best Practices:**

- Keep backlog healthy: review, groom, prune regularly.
- Keep issue descriptions clear; use checklists and Definition of Done.
- Use labels, components, and consistent estimations.
- Limit Work-in-Progress (WIP) columns to enforce flow.
- Design permissions and roles deliberately to control visibility and access

## **8. Real-Life Examples & Sample Workflow**

### **1. Product Backlog Grooming**

- PO creates epics (e.g., "Checkout Flow") and user stories within. PO orders and clarifies stories.

### **2. Sprint Planning**

- Team selects stories, estimates story points (e.g. 8, 5, 3) and starts sprint.

### **3. In-Sprint Tracking**

- At Daily Stand-ups: team updates board; burndown reflects remaining work.

### **4. Sprint Review & Retrospective**

- Use **Sprint Report** to review completed work, gather feedback, and derive improvements. Add retrospective notes to Confluence, link to sprint retrospective epic.

### **5. Reports & Dashboard**

- Create a dashboard showing: Burn-down, Bugs by sprint, Velocity trend, issues by assignee.

# Why DevOps & Cloud Engineers Need Jira & Scrum?

## ✦ Key Use Cases:

- Sprint planning for **CI/CD pipeline features**
- Tracking infrastructure provisioning with **Terraform/CloudFormation**
- Managing **Incidents, Monitoring, and Alerts**
- Tracking **automation tasks, cloud cost optimization, and migrations**
- Integrating with tools like **Jenkins, Git, AWS, Azure DevOps, Docker, Kubernetes**

## Overview of Jira

### What is Jira?

- Atlassian tool for **Agile Project Management**
- Commonly used for **issue tracking, sprint planning, bug reporting, and DevOps work management**

### Jira Ecosystem:

- Jira Software (Agile)
- Jira Service Management (ITSM)
- Confluence (Documentation)
- Bitbucket (Git Repo)
- Bamboo/Jenkins (CI/CD)

### DevOps Scenarios:

- Track tasks like “Setup ELB”, “Provision EKS Cluster”, “Write Helm Chart”, “Create Jenkins Pipeline”

### ✅ Live Demo:

- Create a **Company-managed Jira project** named CloudInfra-DevOps
- Define a Kanban/Scrum board
- Create an Epic: "Setup Production EKS Cluster"

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## Agile Concepts Refresher

### Key Concepts:

#### Concept   DevOps   Example

**Epic**      CI/CD Pipeline Setup

**Story**     Setup Jenkins Slave Nodes

**Task**      Write Terraform module

**Bug**        Nginx config not routing

**Sub-task** Configure SSL in Nginx

### Scrum Events for DevOps Teams:

- Sprint Planning: Select cloud automation tasks
  - Daily Stand-up: “Any blockers in creating AMI pipeline?”
  - Review: “What’s the new backup automation delivered?”
  - Retrospective: “Why was the IAM permission fix delayed?”
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## Jira Setup + Work Management for DevOps & Cloud

### ◆ Jira Project Setup

#### Types of Jira Projects:

- Scrum (good for product & sprint work)
- Kanban (ideal for continuous InfraOps & IT support)

#### ✅ Live Setup:

- Create a Scrum project: Cloud-Migration-India
- Configure **components** like:
  - CI/CD
  - AWS
  - Monitoring
  - Terraform
  - Kubernetes

## User Roles:

- Cloud Engineer: Contributor
  - DevOps Lead: Admin
  - Stakeholders: Viewer
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## Creating Issues & Tracking Work

### Typical DevOps/Cloud Work Items:

- Epic: "Cost Optimization on AWS"
  - Story: "Move logs to S3 Glacier"
  - Task: "Setup lifecycle policies"
  - Sub-task: "Create CloudWatch alert on S3 events"

### ✓ Hands-on:

- Create 3 Epics for your environment:
  - Setup Monitoring Stack
  - Setup CI/CD Pipeline
  - Implement Disaster Recovery
- Add linked stories, estimate in **Story Points (1, 3, 5, 8)**

### Use CSV Bulk Upload for repeatable tasks like:

- "Install Prometheus Agent on 5 EC2 Instances"
  - "Create IAM Roles for Jenkins"
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## Backlogs & Sprint Tracking

### ◆ Session 5: Boards & Sprint Management

- **Backlog View** → Prioritize upcoming tasks
- **Active Sprint** → Move tasks from *To Do* → *In Progress* → *Done*
- **Swimlanes**: Group by assignee, Epic, or priority

### ✓ Demo:

- Create a 1-week sprint named Sprint-Cloud-Infra-001
- Add 5–7 DevOps tasks



- Assign to team, estimate in story points

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## Reporting & Monitoring Jira Work

### ◆ Session 6: Reporting for DevOps & Cloud Teams

Report	DevOps Use
<b>Sprint Report</b>	Track delivery of infrastructure setup
<b>Burndown</b>	Velocity of pipeline automation
<b>Cumulative Flow</b>	Visualize tasks stuck in “In Progress”
<b>Control Chart</b>	Time to complete security fixes

#### ✅ Dashboard Setup:

- Burndown Chart (for Infra Team)
- Pie Chart by Issue Type
- Issues by Cloud Component (AWS, Azure, Monitoring, CI/CD)

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## Jira Automation for DevOps

### Use Automation Rules:

- Auto-close “Done” tasks after 3 days
- Notify Slack/Teams when “CI Pipeline Failed” bug is raised
- Change priority of issues with title High CPU Alert

#### ✅ Demo:

- Create rule: When Bug with label prod-incident is created, assign to DevOps-OnCall

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## Integration with DevOps Tools

### Jira + Jenkins Integration:

- Jenkins updates Jira issues on successful builds
- Link commits, branches to Jira tickets (GIT-101 in commit message)

**Jira + Confluence:**

- Link retrospectives or runbooks to issues

**Jira + GitHub/Bitbucket:**

- Automatically reference issues in PRs, commits

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