

# Configure columns

## This page is for company-managed projects

If the lower-left of your project sidebar says **you're in a team-managed project**, check out these team-managed project articles instead.

Learn more about the difference between company-managed and team-managed projects.

The vertical columns in both the *Active sprints of a Scrum board* and the *Kanban board* represent the workflow of your board's project.

The default columns in the Active Sprints of a Scrum board are **To Do**, **In Progress**, and **Done**.

The default columns on a Kanban board are **Backlog**, **Selected for Development**, **In Progress**, and **Done**.

You can add, delete, rename, or move these columns if you wish. You can also choose which Jira [workflow](#) status or statuses each column is mapped to, and whether any constraints apply to each column.

## Before you begin

To configure the board and any of its settings, you must be either:

- a **project administrator** for the location of the board
- a **board administrator** for the board itself

See [Permissions overview](#) for more information.

## Editing columns

1. Go to your board, then select **more (…)** > **Board settings**.
2. Click the **Columns** tab.
3. Edit the columns as described in the following table.

<b>Add a new column</b>	Click the <b>Add column</b> button, enter the details for your new column, and press <b>Add</b> . If you are using <a href="#">Simplified Workflow</a> , then a new status will automatically be created to match your new column.
Change the name of a column	Click in the name area of the column, modify the existing name, and press <b>Enter</b> .
Delete a column	Click the <b>Delete icon</b> at the top of the column. Any Jira <a href="#">workflow</a> statuses that had been mapped to the deleted column are moved back to the ' <b>Unmapped</b> ' column.
Move a column	Hover over the top of the name of a column, then drag the column left or right to its new position. Wait until other columns have shifted position before dropping the selected column to its new position.

## Column management

Columns can be added, removed, reordered and renamed. Columns are based upon global statuses and can be moved between columns. Minimum and maximum constraints can be set for each mapped column.

### Column Constraint

Constraints can be added to columns on the board for one statistic.

### Simplified Workflow

#### Using Simplified Workflow

The [workflow](#) for project **Sample Scrum Project** is currently managed by JIRA Software. Project Administrators can add and remove statuses below. [?](#)

[Add status](#) [Add column](#)

<b>To Do</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	<b>Done</b>	<b>Unmapped Stat...</b> <a href="#">?</a>

[Configure a company-managed board](#)

[Configure filters](#)

## Configure columns

[Use the simplified workflow](#)

[Configure swimlanes](#)

[Configure quick filters](#)

Show more ▾

## On this page

[Before you begin](#)

[Editing columns](#)

[Mapping statuses to columns](#)

[Editing the mapping of Jira workflow statuses to columns of a board](#)

[Adding a new status](#)

[Deleting a status](#)

[Setting column constraints](#)

[Enabling the Kanban backlog](#)

## Community

[Questions, discussions, and articles](#)

<b>TO DO</b> 11 issues <input type="checkbox"/> Set resolution	<b>IN PROGRESS</b> 3 issues <input type="checkbox"/> Set resolution	<b>DONE</b> 9 issues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Set resolution
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Each column has a blue, yellow, or green color, as shown in the screenshot above.

- The single left-most column will always be blue, representing items in 'new' state.
- The single right-most column will always be green, representing items in a 'successful' state.
- The middle column (or columns if you add more) are always yellow, representing items in progress.

You will see these colors shown in a number of places in Jira Software, e.g. in [gadgets for Jira applications](#).

## Mapping statuses to columns

By default, a board's columns are mapped to the default Jira statuses, as shown in the following tables. You can change this if you wish. For example, if you are using additional, customized Jira statuses, you will probably want to map them to appropriate columns in your board.

If your board's project is using the Jira default workflow:

Default column	Default mapped Jira statuses
To Do	Open, Reopened
In Progress	In Progress
Done	Resolved, Closed

If your board's project is using [Simplified Workflow](#):

Default column	Default mapped Jira statuses
To Do	To Do
In Progress	In Progress
Done	Done

## Editing the mapping of Jira workflow statuses to columns of a board

1. Go to your board, then select **more (…)** > **Board settings**.
2. Click the **Columns** tab.
3. Change the mapping statuses, as described in the following table and screenshot (above).

Map a status to a column	Drag a status from the <b>Unmapped</b> column to the appropriate column.
Unmap a status from a column	Drag a status from its current column to the <b>Unmapped</b> column.
Change the column mappings of a status	Drag a status from its original column to its relevant new column.

Note, all statuses configured in the Jira server are available from the **Board settings** page. However, some statuses (in particular, custom statuses) may not be available for issues on your board if the Jira [workflows](#) used by these issues do not utilize those statuses.

-  You can view workflow statuses and transitions in company-managed projects. Click the status dropdown when viewing an issue and choose **View workflow**.

## Adding a new status

If your board is using [Simplified Workflow](#):

1. Go to your board, then select **more (…)** > **Board settings**.
2. Click the **Columns** tab.
3. Click the **Add status** button.

NOTE: The **Add Status** button is only available if you have the Jira '**Project Administrator**' permission for this board's project. See [Permissions overview](#) for more information.

## Deleting a status

You can only delete a status if:

- you are the 'Project Administrator' for this board's project(s), and
- there are no issues that currently have that status.

If any other workflows are using this status, then the status will be removed from your workflow, but not deleted.

#### If your board is using Simplified Workflow:

1. Go to your board, then select **more (•••)** > **Board settings**.
2. Click the **Columns** tab.
3. Drag the status to the **Unmapped Statuses** column.
4. Click the **Remove Status icon**  for the status you wish to remove.

If your board is **not** using Simplified Workflow, you can only delete a status via the Jira administration interface.

See [Workflows](#) for more information.

## Setting column constraints

Setting constraints on each workflow state is a crucial part of Kanban, so that you can ensure that work is continually flowing through the pipeline. You may also find it handy in Scrum, so that you can see bottlenecks early, and adjust the scope of your sprint.

Constraints trigger a visual indicator when a maximum or minimum number of issues appear in a column. You can specify constraints for all columns, or just some of them. If a column constraint is exceeded, then the column will change color, as follows:

- Column colored red — Maximum number of issues exceeded
- Column colored yellow — Minimum number of issues not met

Please note:

- The values of the column constraints will appear at the top of each column you set them for. These values don't have any impact on the number of issues displayed in the columns.
- Column constraints apply to the total number of issues in a column, regardless of whether issues are hidden by a Quick Filter.

#### To set column constraints of a board:

1. Go to your board, then select **more (•••)** > **Board settings**.
2. Click the **Columns** tab.
3. Edit the constraints, as described in the following table.

<b>Enable column constraints</b>	In the <b>Column Constraint</b> drop-down, select either <b>Issue Count</b> or <b>Issue Count, excluding sub-tasks</b> . Enabling column constraints will show the issue count in each column. You may want to exclude sub-tasks (particularly Scrum teams), so you can constrain the number of stories for your team, rather than the number of individual tasks.
<b>Set a column's 'Min' or 'Max' constraint</b>	Edit the fields at the top of the desired column: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter a minimum value in the yellow box.</li> <li>Enter a maximum value in the red box.</li> </ul> Delete an existing value to remove the constraint.

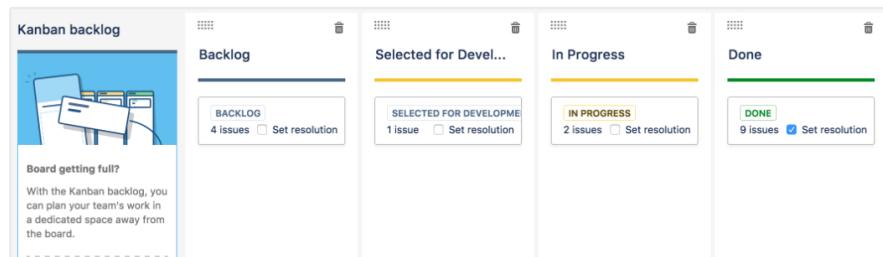
You can also remove constraints for all columns. In the **Column Constraint** drop-down, select **None**.

## Enabling the Kanban backlog

 You must be a **Jira administrator** or a **board administrator** for the board to enable the Kanban backlog.

Managing your backlog in the first column of your Kanban board is easy to do — as long as there are only a few issues in your backlog. As your backlog grows, viewing and scrolling through these issues can become difficult.

By using the Kanban backlog, you get a bigger backlog that gives you an optimized list view of the issues you're creating and ranking for your team. You can also plan story development in the backlog, without distracting your team from their work-in-progress in the Kanban board.





What is Kanban backlog?

#### To enable the Kanban backlog:

1. Go to your board, then select **more (•••)** > **Board settings**.
2. Click the **Columns** tab. The Column settings page displays, with the *Kanban Backlog* as the leftmost column.
3. In the columns section, drag a status to the Kanban Backlog column. Typically, this would be the column for which you plan work for your team.
4. If the Kanban backlog is enabled, you can also enable the Epics panel. This will display [epic issues](#) in a panel in the Kanban backlog, instead of cards on your board.

#### Column management

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##### Column Constraint

Constraints can be added to columns on the board for one statistic.

##### Simplified Workflow

###### Using Simplified Workflow

The [workflow](#) for project **Sample Kanban Project** is currently managed by JIRA Software. Project Administrators can add and remove statuses below. [\(?\)](#)

##### Epics panel



Display epics in a panel in the backlog, and not as cards on the board

**i** **Need help?** If you can't find the answer you need in our documentation, we have other resources available to help you. See [Getting help](#).

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