# Continuous delivery starts on the Jira kanban board

Kanban is a common framework for gaile and DevOps software development that provides transparency of work and team capacity. Kanban boards in Jira Software help teams visualize their workflow, limit work-in-progress, and maximize efficiency.

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# From to-do to done with Jira kanban boards

If kanban is a method is based on the continuous delivery of work, then the Jira Software kanban board is designed to help teams continuously improve cycle time and increase efficiency. Much more than a task board, the Jira kanban board functions to:



# Promote transparency

Having a single source of truth helps teams more effectively communicate. Kanban boards let teams know where work stands at a glance by displaying the most relevant information for each story, issue, bug, or task.



## Optimize workflows

Kanban boards visually depict work at various stages. Jira Software kanban boards allow teams to define and configure workflows and can be as simple or as complex as needed.



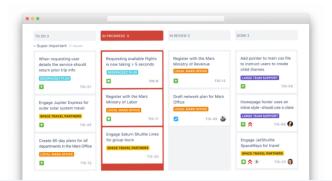
# Easily spot bottlenecks

Work in progress (WIP) is the number of stories in each status at a time. Establishing WIP limits is vital to prevent bottlenecks so that issues flow smoothly through your workflow.



## Continuously improve

Agile reports for Jira Software kanban boards provide real-time visual metrics to track cycle time and spot workflow blockages using the cumulative flow diagram



# A Jira kanban board for every team

Kanban boards give your team full visibility into what's next, so when one work item is completed, the team can quickly move on to the next. Jira Software kanban boards are ideal for teams who practice agile methodologies; teams of all types can take advantage of the kanban board to facilitate smooth project management. Here are a few ideas.



# Software development

Kanban is often used to implement agile software development. It requires real-time communication of capacity and full transparency of work. Work items are represented visually on a kanban board, allowing team members to see the state of every piece of work at any time, all in a single



# Marketing

Marketers manage large, complex projects – such as product launches and events - that involve multiple teams and skillsets. The Jira kanban board is great for transparency and project visibility, and day-to-day project management. The kanban board empowers teams and help streamline processes to identify bottlenecks before they happen, so every project launches on time



# **Business & HR**

Hiring, staffing, and informing employees of the latest company news is a challenging marketing project in itself. Jira kanban boards help track every piece of a project, whether it's updating career and company information on a website, creating internal communication hand-outs, and



If you're new to the Jira kanban board, here are a few terms to familiarize yourself with before you get started. Learn more about <u>kanban</u> and check out step-by-step instructions on how to drive a kanban project with Jira

# Work in progress (WIP) limits

WIP limits are critical for exposing bottlenecks in the workflow and maximizing flow. <u>WIP limits</u> are the maximum number of issues that can be in one column or step a workflow at any given time. When the column is "maxed-out", the team needs to swarm on those issues and move them forward before new issues can move into that stage of the workflow.

# Workflows

Another hallmark of the kanban board are the columns that represent a specific activity that together compose a "workflow". Cards flow

completion. <u>Workflows</u> can be as simple as "to do," "in progress," "done," or much more complex.

### **Swimlane**

A <u>swimlane</u> is a way of categorizing issues on the Jira kanban board so that agile teams can easily see issues grouped by different criteria, such as by a user or by issue type.

## Backlog

Kanban teams often have a backlog for their board. This is where customers, product managers, or teammates put ideas for projects that the team can pick up when they are ready. The commitment point is the moment when an idea is picked up by the team and work starts on the project.

## **User stories**

One of the first things you'll notice about a kanban board are the visual cards, known as issues in Jira Software. For agile teams, using Jira issues could encapsulate tasks, bugs, or user stories. Once on the board, these visual signals help teammates and stakeholders quickly understand what the team is working

### **Delivery point**

The delivery point is the end of a kanban team's workflow, typically when the product or service is in the hands of the customer. Kanban teams are continuously working to improve their lead time with the goal to move issues from the backlog to the delivery point as fast as possible.

# Extend Jira Software with Apps

Take your Jira kanban board to the next level with these Marketplace apps

Explore apps on Atlassian marketplace →





































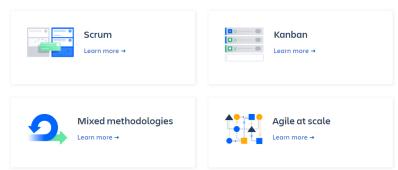


Now that you've got the basics down, check out this  ${\it tutorial}\ {\it to}\ {\it learn}$ kanban with Jira Software

Can't decide between kanban and scrum? →

# All the agile with even more agility

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