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Spring Cron syntax

Cron is a software utility that specifies commands to run on a given schedule. This schedule is defined by a Cron pattern, which has a specific syntax.

> **Warning**   If you create an invalid Cron pattern, Collibra Data Intelligence Platform stops responding.

> **Note**   By default, Collibra Console uses Spring Cron expressions to schedule back-ups, while you use Quartz Cron expressions, for example, to schedule your mail, LDAP synchronizations, Purge cycles, Tableau and S3 synchronizations or to create a statistics cron map.

The Cron pattern consists of 6 space-separated fields:

```
<second> <minute> <hour> <day of month> <month> <day of week>
```

Position	Field	Allowed values	Allowed special characters	Examples
1	second	0 **Note** Collibra transforms this pattern into a Unix Cron pattern. Because Unix Cron expressions don't include seconds, set this value to 0.	N/A	N/A
2	minute	0-59	, - * /	• *30*: at the 30th minute. • */15*: every 15 minutes. • *5/10*: every 10 minutes starting at the 5th minute after the hour
3	hour	0-23	, - * /	• *10*: at 10 o'clock. • *8-10*: at 8,9 and 10 AM. • *6,18*: at 6 AM and at 6 PM.
4	day of the month	1-31	, - * ? / L W	• *3*: on the 3rd day of the month. • *1-4*: every first four days of the month. • *1,15*: the first day of the month and the 15th day of the month.
5	month	1-12 or JAN-DEC	, - * /	• *12*: in December. • *1-3*: every first three months of the year. • *JUL,AUG*: every July and August. > **Tip** The names of the months are not case-sensitive.
6	day of the week	0-7 or MON-SUN where 0 and 7 is Sunday.	, - * ? / L #	• *TUE*: every Tuesday. • *1-5*: every weekday, Monday to Friday. • *MON,WED,FRI*: every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

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Position	Field	Allowed values	Allowed special characters	Examples
				• *L*: only in combination with a digit or short day notation indicating the last day of the month. For example, 7L or SUNL indicates the last Sunday of the month, 3L or WEDL indicates the last Wednesday of the month. • *5#3*: on the 3rd Friday of the month. **Tip** The names of the days are not case-sensitive.

For more information, see the [Spring Cron documentation](#).

Special characters

Character	Description
*	Used to select all values within a field. **Example** `*` in the minute field corresponds with every minute.
?	Used to specify something in one of the two fields in which the character is allowed, but not the other, mainly used for days of the week. **Example** If you want your trigger to fire on a particular day of the month, for example the 10th, but don't care what day of the week that happens to be, you could put "10" in the day-of-month field, and "?" in the day of the week field.
-	Used to specify ranges. **Example** `10-12` in the hour field means "the hours 10, 11 and 12".
,	Used to specify additional values. **Example** `MON,WED,FRI` in the day-of-week field means "the days Monday, Wednesday, and Friday".
/	Used to specify increments. **Example** `0/15` in the minutes field means "the minutes 0, 15, 30, and 45". And `5/15` in the minutes field means "the minutes 5, 20, 35, and 50". You can also leave out the number before /, which is equivalent to having 0 before / . `1/3` in the day-of-month field means "every 3 days starting on the first day of the month".
L	The value `L` in the **day-of-month field** means "the last day of the month" - day 31 for January, day 28 for February on non-leap years. You can also specify an offset from the last day of the month, such as "L-3" which would mean the third-to-last day of the calendar month. You cannot use `L` in the **day-of-week field** by itself, you always have to prefix it by a digit (0-7) or the short day notation (MON-SUN). This combination means "the last xxx day of the month" - for example "6L" or "SATL" means "the last Saturday of the month".
W	Used to specify the weekday (Monday-Friday) nearest the given day. **Example** `15W` in the value for the day-of-month field, means the nearest weekday to the 15th of the month: • If the 15th is a Saturday, the trigger will fire on Friday the 14th. • If the 15th is a Sunday, the trigger will fire on Monday the 16th. • If the 15th is a Tuesday, then it will fire on Tuesday the 15th.

COOKIE SETTINGS

Character	Description
	However if you specify `1W` as the value for day-of-month, and the 1st is a Saturday, the trigger will fire on Monday the 3rd, as it will not 'jump' over the boundary of a month's days. The 'W' character can only be specified when the value in the day-of-month field specifies a single day, not a range or list of days. **Tip** The 'L' and 'W' characters can also be combined in the day-of-month field to yield 'LW', which translates to *"last weekday of the month"*.
#	Used to specify "the nth" XXX day of the month. **Example** `6#3` in the day-of-week field means "the third Saturday of the month" (day 6 = Saturday and "#3" = the third one in the month). Other examples: `2#1` is the first Tuesday of the month and `4#5` is the fifth Thursday of the month. Note that if you specify `#5` and there is not 5 of the given day-of-week in the month, then no firing will occur that month.

Example

- `0 0 * * * *` = the top of every hour of every day.
- `0 0 8-10 * * *` = 8, 9 and 10 o'clock of every day.
- `0 0 6,19 * * *` = 6:00 AM and 7:00 PM every day.
- `0 0/30 8-10 * * *` = 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00 and 10:30 every day.
- `0 0 9-17 * * MON-FRI` = on the hour nine-to-five weekdays.
- `0 0 0 25 12 ?` = every Christmas Day at midnight, no matter what weekday it is.

COOKIE SETTINGS