

JIRA Installation Guide

Note:

This Installation Guide applies if you are installing JIRA for the first time. If you are upgrading JIRA, please refer to the [Upgrade Guide](#).

1. Which 'Distribution' Should You Choose?

JIRA is available in two 'distributions':

Standalone distribution	WAR/EAR distribution
Pre-packaged with Tomcat application server	Deploys into an existing application server
Pre-packaged with HSQLDB database, but can be easily connected to any supported database	Connects to any supported database
Requires virtually no setup	Requires manual configuration
Recommended for all users	Suitable only for system administrators

The **Standalone distribution is recommended**, even for organisations with an existing application server environment. Please note however, that the HSQLDB database pre-packaged with the Standalone distribution is suitable for evaluation purposes only.

2. JIRA Requirements

JIRA is a 'web application', meaning it runs centrally on a server, and users interact with it through web browsers from any computer.

2.1. JIRA Client Requirements

1. Browser:

JIRA will work with most modern browsers:

- Internet Explorer 6 and 7
- Firefox 1.5 and 2.x
- Safari (latest version)
- Opera (latest version)

All of the main functionality will work in IE 5.5; however, some of the visual effects will be missing, as IE 5.5 is becoming quite dated and does not support web standards that are in common use today.

Note:

To get the full experience JIRA has to offer, you should enable Javascript in your browser. If Javascript is disabled you will still be able to use all the main functionality of JIRA, but some features will not work (e.g. adding issue types per project; the preview for the wiki renderer).

2.2. JIRA Server Requirements

1. Hardware:

During evaluation, JIRA will run well on any reasonably fast workstation computer (eg. 1.5+Ghz processor). Memory requirements depend on how many [projects](#) and [issues](#) you will store, but 256MB is enough for most evaluation purposes. (Note: most people start by installing JIRA

Standalone on their local computer. It is easy to move JIRA to a production server later.)

The hardware required to run JIRA in production depends mainly on the number of issues and users that your installation will have, as well as the maximum number of concurrent requests that the system will experience during peak hours.

- If you are planning to have a small number of projects (10-20) with 1,000 to 5,000 issues in total and about 100-200 users, a recent server (2.8+GHz CPU) with 256-512MB of available RAM should cater for your needs.
- If you are planning for a greater number of issues and users, adding more memory will help. We have reports that allocating 1GB of RAM to JIRA is sufficient for 100,000 issues.
- If your system will experience a large number of concurrent requests, running JIRA on a multi-CPU machine will increase the concurrency of processing the requests, and therefore speed up the response time.

For reference, jira.atlassian.com has over 33,000 issues and over 30,000 user accounts. The system runs on a 64bit Quad processor. The server has 4 GB of memory with 1 GB dedicated to JIRA.

We would appreciate it if you let us know what hardware configuration works for you. Please create a ticket in our [support system](#) with your hardware specification and mention the number of users and issues in your JIRA installation.

Note:

JIRA requires access to a local disk for certain functionality (e.g. if JIRA does not have read and write access to disk, searching and attachments will not work).

2. Operating System:

JIRA runs on any operating system that supports Java (see below). If you're undecided, see [our thoughts on OS choice](#).

Please note:

- Users of **Linux/UNIX**: A dedicated user should be created to run JIRA, as JIRA runs as the user it is invoked under and therefore can potentially be abused. Here is an example of how to create a dedicated user to run JIRA in Linux:

```
$ sudo /usr/sbin/useradd --create-home --home-dir /usr/local/jira --shell /bin/bash jira
```
- Users of IBM's **i5 OS**: JIRA Standalone (Tomcat) will not run due to [startup script problems](#).

3. Java:

JIRA requires the **Java Developers Kit (JDK) v1.4 or later** to be installed on the server. Please see [Installing Java](#).

Currently Sun's JDK is available for Windows (32 bit + 64 bit), Solaris (SPARC + 32 bit + 64 bit) and Linux Platforms (32 bit + 64 bit). If you are a Mac OSX user, Apple also provides a specific [JDK](#) that has been optimised for its hardware and OS.

4. Application Server:

JIRA is a web application, so requires an application server.

- **JIRA Standalone** ships pre-configured with the [Apache Tomcat](#) application server, which is a stable, light weight and fast performing server.
- **JIRA WAR/EAR** can be installed into any of the supported [application servers](#) (provided they are compatible with your chosen operating system and JDK). Note that manual configuration will be required.

5. Database:

JIRA requires a relational database for storage of [issue](#) data. JIRA supports most [relational database servers](#), so we suggest using the one that you are most comfortable administering.

- **JIRA Standalone** ships pre-configured with the HSQLDB database, which is suitable for evaluation purposes. HSQLDB is prone to database corruption. Before deploying to a production environment, we **strongly recommend** that you connect JIRA Standalone to an enterprise database (see the [list of supported databases](#)).
- **JIRA WAR/EAR** can be connected to any of the [supported databases](#), provided they are compatible with your application server.

3. Next Step

[Install JIRA Standalone](#) (recommended); or [Install JIRA WAR/EAR](#)