

Using robots.txt to hide from Search Engines

The [robots.txt protocol](#) is used to tell search engines (Google, MSN, etc) which parts of a website should not be crawled.

For JIRA instances running in [public mode](#), a robots.txt file is useful for preventing unnecessary crawling of the [Issue Navigator](#) views (and unnecessary load on your JIRA server).

1. Editing robots.txt

JIRA (version 3.7 and later) installs the following robots.txt file in the `\webapp\` directory:

```
# robots.txt for JIRA
# You may specify URLs in this file that will not be crawled by search engines (Google,
#
# By default, all SearchRequestViews in the IssueNavigator (e.g.: Word, XML, RSS, etc)
# (XML, Printable and Word) are excluded by the /sr/ and /si/ directives below.

User-agent: *
Disallow: /sr/
Disallow: /si/
```

Alternatively, if you already have a robots.txt file, simply edit it and add `Disallow: /sr/` and `Disallow: /si/`.

2. Publishing robots.txt

The robots.txt file needs to be published at the root of your JIRA internet domain, e.g. **`jira.mycompany.com/robots.txt`**.

Note:

If your JIRA instance is published at **`jira.mycompany.com\jira`**, change the contents of the file to `Disallow: /jira/sr/` and `Disallow: /jira/si/`. However, you still need to put robots.txt file in the root directory, i.e. `jira.mycompany.com/robots.txt` (not `jira.mycompany.com/jira/robots.txt`).