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Say goodbye to field configuration schemes and hello to the future of Jira

Last updated: February 25, 2026

Update 26th February: We've consolidated all your top questions and created reference guides to the new Field Schemes in this new community article- please be sure to check there for the latest information.

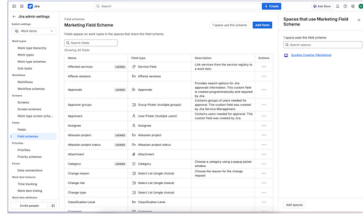
Starting in May 2026, we're introducing a powerful new way to manage fields. We will be retiring Field configurations and Field configuration schemes, replacing them with a more unified experience called **Field schemes**. Be among the first to try it out - join our Open Beta in January 2026 to explore what's new and share your feedback!

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Starting February 2026, newly created fields will not be added to any field configurations by default. Instead, you will be provided an optional step to associate the field to one or many field configuration schemes, which adds the field to all the field configurations associated to that scheme. For sites with Field Schemes enabled, there will be a similar step to associate to field schemes (in progress).

Hi everyone, it's Carol back again with another exciting update on how you manage Fields in Jira!

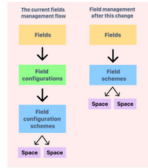
My team has already updated the UI on the Fields page and brought team-managed fields to the Fields admin screen. Soon, we will be introducing a more streamlined experience called **Field schemes**.



The future of fields management

What are Field schemes?

Today, fields are assigned to Field configurations, which are then grouped into Field configuration schemes to define which fields appear in each space. We recognize that this structure can be challenging to manage, and that's why we're simplifying this and bringing these two concepts together into a single, streamlined one called **Field schemes**.



In case you missed it: we've posted updates in the Atlassian Developer community outlining how this impacts our APIs:

- RFC-105: New Field Scheme Model APIs for Field Configuration Backup, Restoration, and Management
- RFC-104: New Field Scheme Model APIs for Project and Work Type Associations
- RFC-103: Jira Field Configuration Overhaul: Admin Experience and API Changes
- RFC-121 Transition Create Custom Project API to The New Field Scheme Model

Please note this also includes an update to creating new spaces, to make sure they are associated to the relevant field schemes.

Updates to how you use Field contexts

Additionally, when we roll out field schemes, we will no longer use field contexts to restrict field visibility in a given space or work item. Field contexts will continue to define a field's default value and available options. Given contexts will no longer be used to restrict where fields are available, every field will have a global context which is always present and cannot be deleted.

Currently, admins often use **Screens**, **Screen schemes**, **Work item layouts** and **Field contexts** in a space to define what fields are available on work types. However, this approach has some drawbacks:

- Screens only control which fields appear when creating or viewing a work item in the full page view. Removing a field from a screen doesn't remove it from the space. If you've ever seen unrelated fields that appear when you are trying to filter work, this is probably why.
- Field contexts currently have limitations that could lead to messy workarounds.

If you've been watching this space, this change is part of the foundation work we are doing to enable us to finally unlock the ability to set more than one field context for a single space - I'll keep you posted when we have estimated timelines for this change.

TL;DR

- **Field schemes** will become the source of truth of what work types a field can appear on for **Spaces**.
- **Field contexts** determine default values of fields, and what options are available for users to select.
- **Screens**, **Screen schemes** and **Work item layouts** determine what users see when they are creating or viewing a work item in the full page view.

The migration progress

How we're planning to migrate your data

We've set up a migration tool that preserves the current state of your site. First, the migration tool maps your existing setup by doing the following:

1. First, it reads your current field configuration & field configuration schemes, noting:
 1. the spaces in which these schemes are used
 2. the fields that are associated to those spaces, and
 3. the work types to which they apply
2. It then looks at your existing field contexts, identifying any work types or spaces that don't have field contexts.

Once it has mapped your current setup, the migration tool:

- Creates new **Field schemes** that ensure that the fields currently available in your spaces and work types remain that way
 - Note: you may have more schemes than you began with fewer spaces associated with each scheme.
- Automatically associates this new **Field scheme** to the Space(s).
- Auto-optimisation step: the tool detects fields which are unused in the Spaces associated, and removes any association. The following fields will be considered used:
 - field that holds value for the work item
 - field added to the screen
 - fields marked as required
 - field used in workflows
 - field used in proforma forms


Timelines and what to expect

We've been in early access with a small group of customers and will open this up more broadly with our Open Beta in January 2026. If you'd like to join, please fill in this form and we'll be in touch in January. If you're already in the early access program, you're all set - we'll roll out the changes to you automatically.

We're targeting to start progressively rolling out to all customers from April 2026. Joining the Open Beta helps you get ready early and gives us valuable feedback to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Thank you again for your support and interest - please feel free to leave any questions or comments below.

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