

Synchronizing the status of Zendesk tickets with the status of linked issues in Jira

What's my plan?

All Suites Team, Growth, Professional, Enterprise, or Enterprise Plus

Support Team, Professional, or Enterprise

Verified AI summary ◀▼

Synchronize ticket statuses with linked Jira issues using automation rules. Set triggers for status changes, add conditions for linked issues, and configure actions to update ticket statuses. This integration requires admin access to both platforms. Test and troubleshoot using audit logs to ensure seamless operation. Enhance issue tracking and resolution by automating status updates between the two systems.

This guide describes how to use Jira automation rules to synchronize the status of tickets in Zendesk with the status of linked issues in Jira. For example, if the status of a linked issue in Jira changes to Done, then the status of the ticket in Zendesk is automatically updated to Solved.

You'll need the following permissions to create this integration:

- Admin access to Zendesk to generate an API token
- Admin access to Jira to create and configure automation rules

Topics covered in this article:

- [Getting your Zendesk credentials](#)
- [Creating a Jira automation rule to sync ticket statuses](#)
- [Examples](#)

Getting your Zendesk credentials

To get your Zendesk credentials

1. Get a Zendesk API token from the Admin Center in your Zendesk account. See [Generating API tokens](#).
2. Combine the API token with your email address by replacing the placeholders in the following string:

```
{zendesk_email}/token:{copied_api_token}
```

Example:

```
jdoe@company.com/token:abc123def456ghi789
```

3. Encode your credentials using Base64.

Base64 is an encoding scheme. You can search online for Base64 encoding tools. One option is to use <https://www.base64encode.org/>.

The credentials in the example in step 2 look as follows after being encoded using Base64:

```
amRvZUBjb21wYW55LmNvbS90b2t1bjphYmMxMjNkZWY0NTZnaGk3ODk=
```

4. Save your encoded credentials to use later in the Jira automation rule.

Creating a Jira automation rule to sync ticket statuses

Jira automation rules allow you to automate actions in Jira based on criteria that you set. Automation rules are made up of three parts:

- triggers that kick off the rule
- conditions that determine when the trigger runs
- actions that perform tasks in Jira when the trigger runs

To create an automation rule in Jira to sync ticket statuses

1. Refer to [Create and edit Jira automation rules](#) in the Jira documentation for the detailed procedure.

Jira may change how this feature works over time. Always refer to the official Jira documentation for the latest information.

2. Select **Global automation** under **System** to create the rule.
3. Give your rule a descriptive name such as "Sync to Zendesk - Escalation".
4. Refer to the following sections to configure the rule to create the integration with Zendesk:
 - [Define the trigger for the automation rule](#)
 - [Adding a condition for linked issues](#)
 - [Adding an action to update ticket statuses](#)
5. Turn on the rule.

Define the trigger for the automation rule

Define the trigger so that the automation rule runs when the status of an issue changes, or *transitions*, to another status.

To define the trigger for the automation rule

1. Select the **Issue transitioned** trigger.
2. In the **From status** field, enter the starting status, such as "In Progress".
3. In the **To status** field, enter the new status, such as "Done".

Adding a condition for linked issues

You can add a condition to the trigger so that it only runs when the issue is linked to a Zendesk ticket.

To define this condition, you can use the **jira_escalated** label that's added automatically to an issue when the issue is linked to a Zendesk ticket.

To add a condition for linked issues

1. Click **Add component** to add a condition.
2. Select the **JQL** condition.
3. In the JQL field, enter `labels = jira_escalated`.

Adding an action to update ticket statuses

When a linked issue transitions from one status to another in Jira, the status of the ticket in Zendesk should be updated. To accomplish this, add an action to the automation rule that makes an API request to Zendesk to update the ticket status.

To add an action to update ticket statuses

1. Click **Add component** to add an action.
2. Select the **Send Web Request** action.
3. Configure the Send Web Request action as outlined in the next section.

Configuring the Send Web Request action

Configure the Send Web Request action as follows:

- **Web request URL:** Enter the following Zendesk API endpoint:

`https://{subdomain}.zendesk.com/api/v2/integrations/jira/{jira_external_key}/post_function`

Replace the subdomain placeholder with your Zendesk subdomain.

To get the `jira_external_key` value, go to the Zendesk Admin Center, then select **Apps and integrations > Integrations > Jira > Edit**.
- **HTTP method:** Specify POST
- **Web request body:** Select **Custom data**.
- **Custom data:** The custom data for the action is represented as a JSON object with the following JSON format:

Name	Type	Mandatory	Description
zendesk_status	string	false	The target status in Zendesk: "open",

Name	Type	Mandatory	Description
			"pending", or "solved".
comment	string	true	Comment to add to the Zendesk ticket. Supports HTML comments
is_public_comment	boolean	false	Whether the comment is visible to end users
issue_id	string	true	Specify the Jira smart value <code>{{issue.id}}</code> , which dynamically provides the issue id at runtime
issue_key	string	true	Specify the Jira smart value <code>{{issue.key}}</code> , which dynamically provides the issue key at runtime
tags	array	false	Tags to add to the Zendesk ticket

Example

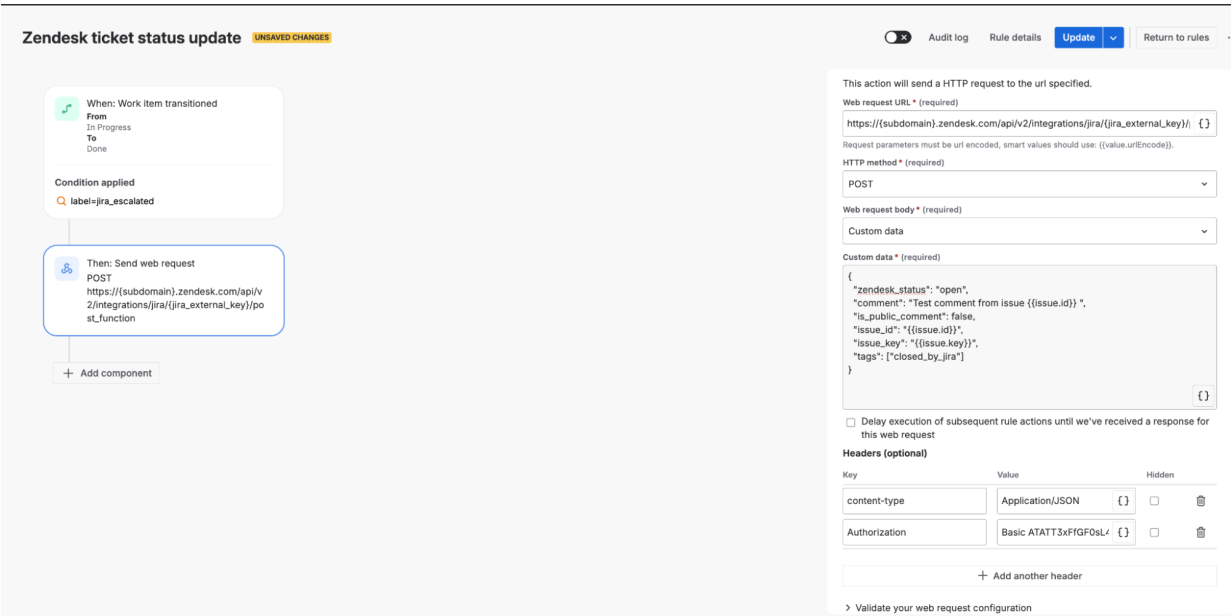
```
{
  "zendesk_status": "solved",
  "comment": "Issue has been resolved",
  "is_public_comment": false,
  "issue_id": "{{issue.id}}",
  "issue_key": "{{issue.key}}",
  "tags": ["in-assist", "resolved-jira"]
}
```

- **Delay execution option:** Select the option: "Delay execution of subsequent rule actions until we've received a response for this web request".

- **Headers:** Specify the following headers.

Key	Value	Hidden checkbox
Authorization	Basic {your_base64_encoded_credentials}	Checked
Content-Type	application/json	Unchecked

The action should look as follows when you're done:



Testing the automation rule

This test assumes you configured the automation rule as follows:

- the Jira issue transitions from "In progress" to "Pending"
- the issue has a **jira_escalated** label

You can modify the test to reflect how your rule is configured.

To test the automation rule

1. Create a test ticket in Zendesk.
2. Use the Jira app in the ticket interface to create a Jira issue from the ticket.

The app automatically adds the **jira_escalated** label to the new issue in Jira.

3. In Jira, change the status of the linked issue from "In Progress" to "Pending".
4. Open the linked Zendesk ticket and verify the following:
 - The status has been updated
 - The comment has been added
 - The tags have been applied

You can also check the results in the audit logs.

To check the results in the audit logs

1. Go to the automation rule in Jira.
2. Click **Audit log** in the toolbar.
3. Review the execution history.

Troubleshooting

You may encounter the following problems when testing.

401 Unauthorized Error

- Verify your Base64 encoded credentials are correct
- Ensure the API token is still valid in Zendesk
- Check that the `Authorization` header format is as follows: `Basic {base64_string}`

404 Not Found Error

- Verify the endpoint URL is correct
- Check that the external ID in the URL is valid

400 Bad Request Error

- Validate the JSON payload structure
- Ensure all required fields are present
- Check that the `zendesk_status` value is valid

Automation not triggering

- Verify the conditions match your issue's state
- Check that the label **jira_escalated** is present
- Review the audit log for the automation rule

Examples

The following examples show how to update the status of tickets in Zendesk when the status of issues in Jira changes to a specific status.

Jira issue status changes to Escalated

Automation rule trigger

- Issue transitioned to "Escalated"

Custom data for Zendesk tickets

```
{  
  "zendesk_status": "open",
```

```
"comment": "Issue has been escalated",
"is_public_comment": false,
"issue_id": "{{issue.id}}",
"issue_key": "{{issue.key}}",
"tags": ["escalated"]
}
```

Jira issue status changes to Done

Automation rule trigger

- Issue transitioned to "Done"

Custom data for Zendesk tickets

```
{
  "zendesk_status": "solved",
  "comment": "Issue has been resolved",
  "is_public_comment": true,
  "issue_id": "{{issue.id}}",
  "issue_key": "{{issue.key}}",
  "tags": ["resolved"]
}
```

Jira issue status changes to Waiting for Customer

Automation rule trigger

- Issue transitioned to "Waiting for Customer"

Custom data for Zendesk tickets

```
{
  "zendesk_status": "pending",
  "comment": "Waiting for customer response",
  "is_public_comment": false,
  "issue_id": "{{issue.id}}",
  "issue_key": "{{issue.key}}",
  "tags": ["awaiting-response"]
}
```