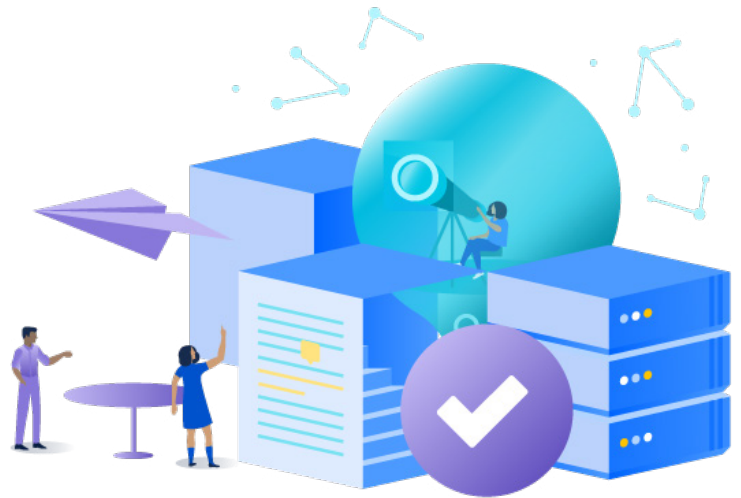




# Are you ready for the next step?

## The Journey from Advanced Roadmaps to Jira Align



Teams today are taking advantage of the capabilities of Atlassian’s Jira Software with Advanced Roadmaps to conduct long-term agile planning at the program level and keep stakeholders updated with progress. In doing so, they are releasing more predictably and can see progress against their goals. They are tracking cross-team dependencies and work capacities and modeling different outcomes by envisioning different scenarios.

But as an agile transformation expands, OKRs need to be managed and work needs to be tied back to specific OKRs at all levels of the organization. Manual reporting processes must be reduced to help with planning, whether it’s “big room” in-person or virtual. Leaders need portfolio level visibility, planning, and management. And if you’re considering adopting a scaled agile framework like SAFe, LeSS, Scrum@Scale, Spotify, etc - you need a solution that can accommodate both the frameworks, as well as your individual teams’ ways of working. Increasingly organizations are taking a hybrid approach to their agile ways of working and creating custom frameworks that incorporate the parts that fit them best.

- Can you see all the work happening across your enterprise?
- Do your leaders want to see how all teams’ work connects to the executive vision and overall portfolio strategy?
- Do you need to connect your business (product management) and development (software engineering) teams?
- Is it a struggle to align strategy with outcomes?

## Where you started with Atlassian Advanced Roadmaps

Let's talk about why you moved from Jira Software to Jira Software Premium with Advanced Roadmaps in the first place. You likely were adopting basic agile methods like Scrum or Kanban and starting to see that you needed long-term agile planning to better align your teams. You had multiple teams to support, but not the whole enterprise. You wanted to inform your stakeholders easily with where you were with their feature requests – or even show them a place where they could see what progress was being made.

## What Advanced Roadmaps has done for you

Your teams have achieved a lot through this phase of agile adoption – they are releasing more predictably and consistently and can see progress against commitments above Jira Epics. And so can their stakeholders. You're able to track cross-team dependencies and can forecast based on team capacity, which helps with organizational planning and setting expectations at the right level. You are able to envision how different scenarios affect potential outcomes and make the best decisions on what work to do, and when.

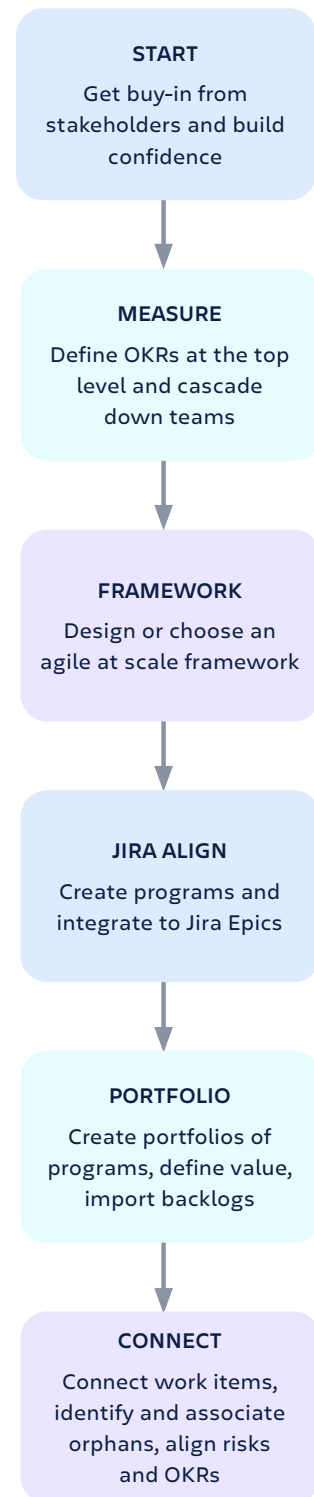
## Where you want to go next

But you realize you need more. You have more teams and need to include all of them – you need to scale. But it's not just about the size of your deployment, your leaders want to be able to see how all of their teams' work connects to the executive vision and overall portfolio strategy. Maybe you're not just using Scrum or Kanban anymore, but are adopting an agile scaling framework such as SAFe. You need increasing amounts of risk management and governance. And just seeing the dependencies isn't enough now. You need to actively manage them. It's not just about the teams anymore, it's about the layers within your organization and you need to report across them all.



## How to get there, step by step







- 1** First, you need buy-in from your stakeholders. They are going to be able to see their work in progress much more easily, gain insights into where improvements can be made. They will be a whole lot more confident about when their requests are going to be delivered and have confidence that governance processes are being followed.
- 2** Next up is defining your OKRs at the top level, as well as cascading them down the teams. If you're new to OKRs, you might find our Ultimate Guide to Objectives and Key Results useful.
- 3** Select or create an agile at scale framework to use across the organization and start rolling that out, team by team, with the learning experiences they'll need to be proficient.
- 4** Now to the tool – create one or more programs in Jira Align. The ideal groups will traditionally plan together, sequencing work due to dependencies and alignment to commitments, and adhere to an agreed upon scaling framework and strategy. Integrate their Jira Epics with Jira Align.
- 5** Next, create a portfolio, which will encompass multiple programs into a single view and define the value this portfolio is tasked with delivering. Import the backlog of issues into Jira Align, noting the primary program for these portfolio level objects. The work previously represented in Advanced Roadmaps, that is above the Jira Epic for these teams, will now be aligned to the portfolio and to OKRs.
- 6** Create connections between the program and portfolio level work items, identifying orphaned work, and associate them with their parent. In Jira Align, begin connecting work at the different levels to risks, dependencies, objectives and key results.



For teams who do not follow agreed upon scaling frameworks or have not been integrated into Jira Align, they can continue to use Advanced Roadmap Plans to help them visualize shared commitments over time.

You can choose whether you migrate entirely from Advanced Roadmaps to Jira Align, or have the two platforms coexist, depending on your use cases. You might find the migration tricky to do on your own, so consider working with one of our experienced partners.

## What life looks like with Jira Align

-  With Jira Align you are able to fully visualize the work being done across your entire organization tied to your organization's goals and objectives.
-  You're more easily able to report up to your executive level stakeholders on the progress that is underway and the work needed to be done to achieve your goals.
-  You're able to better track your investments (both \$ and labor) and understand when and where resources can be reallocated if you need to pivot towards a new initiative.
-  You'll be able to align agile development with your business strategy and identify and remove bottlenecks to improve the flow of changes intended to improve customer experience, accelerating your time to value.
-  And you can track the financial impact and outcomes of your work too – seeing value realization through both the eyes of your customers and your business' stakeholders.
-  Integrating workflows and governance means you can achieve continuous compliance and be confident that you'll meet the goals your regulators and auditors are setting.

Transitioning from using Advanced Roadmaps plans to Jira Align may not be for every organization. But if you read this far and think we've described your enterprise, let our experts and partners guide you on your journey to scale agile.

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Considering your own move to the cloud?  
[Learn more about Atlassian's cloud security](#)