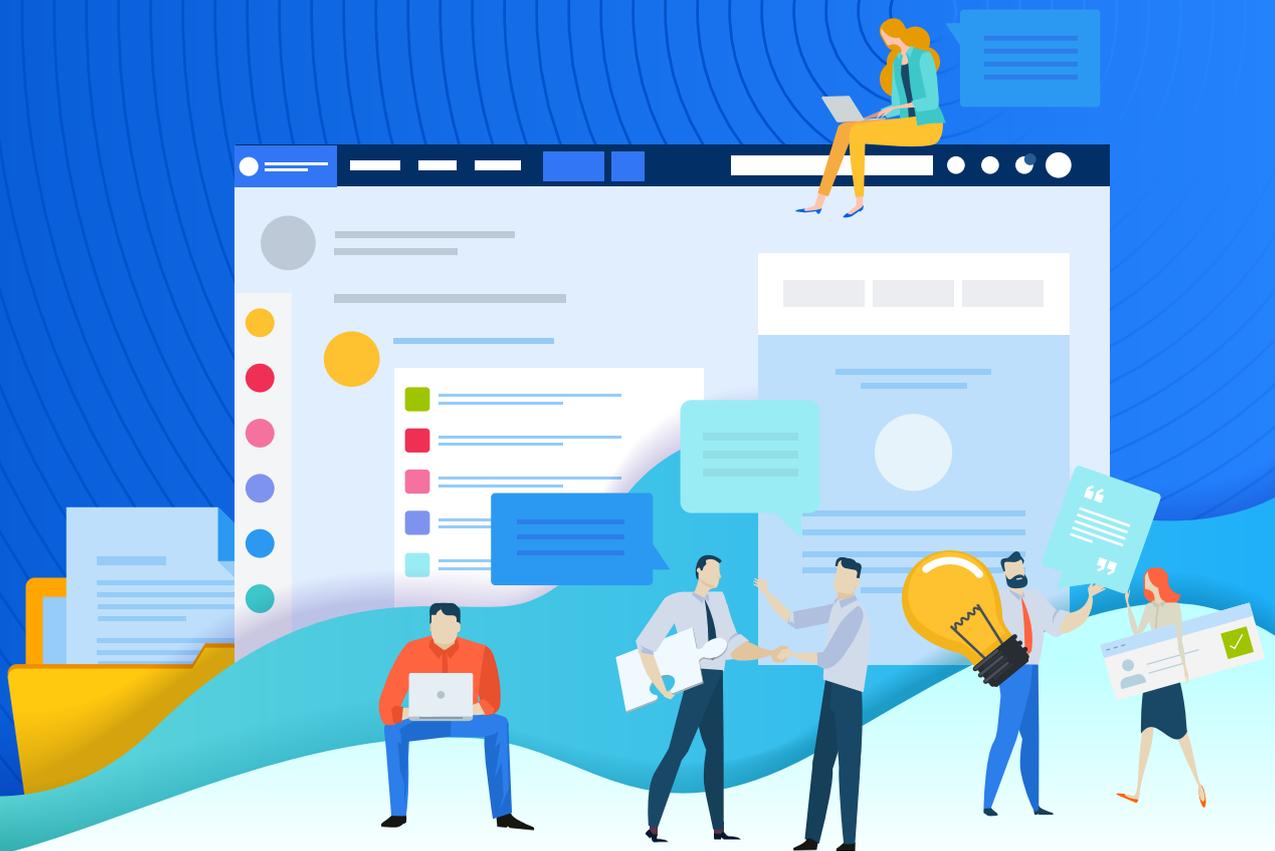




Spectrum Groupe

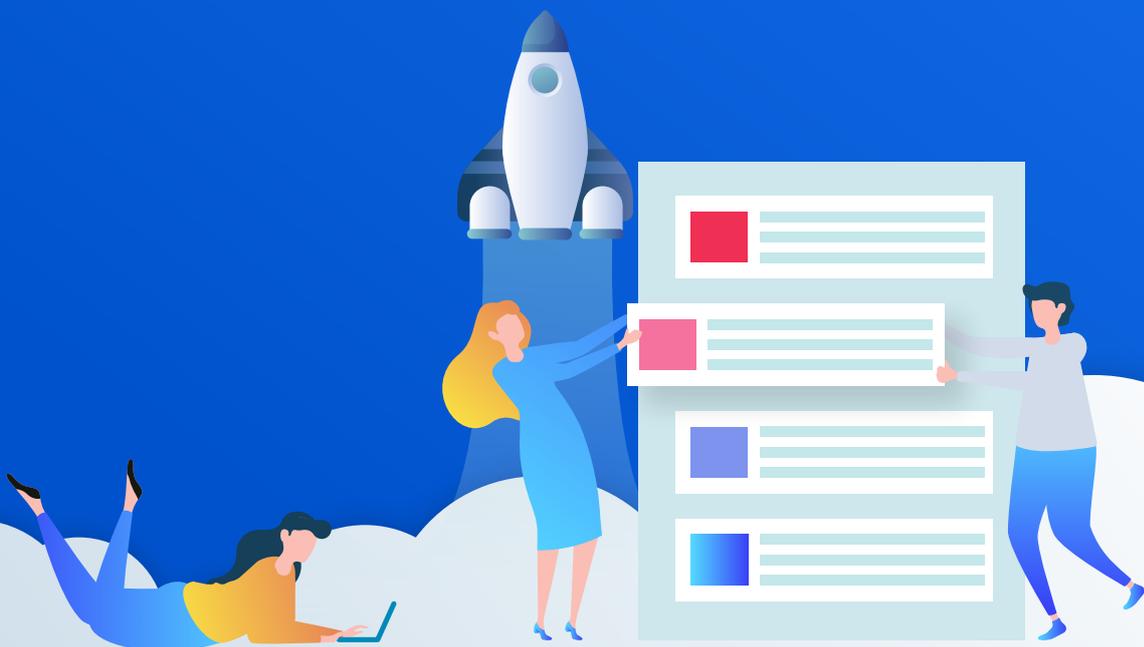
Information Management Experts

A guide for Atlassian Confluence and its marketplace 2021



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Spectrum Groupe is pleased to announce the release of a brand-new study, a guide dedicated to the proper use and customisation of Confluence using marketplace apps and may help you reveal the secret recipe behind Confluence's trend-bucking success. This new study is the fruit of Spectrum Groupe's hard work and expertise in several aspects:

- its Confluence expertise developed through a long-standing partnership with Atlassian.
- its Spectrum Benchmark activity dedicated to white papers and in-depth studies to shed light on emerging software markets.
- its core business of consulting and Business Analysis for the support of its customers in their technological options.

Spectrum Groupe believes that it is sometimes quite challenging to distinguish between apps that seem to be very similar in an increasingly diverse marketplace. The marketplace is one of the great assets of the Atlassian editor, because of the large choice it offers to develop its Confluence uses. But this asset can become a brain-teaser for those who seek a solution that meets their needs and find themselves up against a wide choice of solutions. Is it advisable to choose the best rated solution? The most downloaded solution? Or the most expensive solution just to guarantee you've got what you are looking for? **At Spectrum Groupe, we believe that you must first identify your needs and try to meet them with a good knowledge of the market, while respecting its constraints such as budget or licensing mode.**

Through this guide, Spectrum Groupe offers its expertise to project managers, administrators and Confluence space managers. Our goal is to help you discover the benefits and uses of marketplace apps, to better define your needs according to your budget, and to help you make the right choice.

The 2020 edition of this guide focuses on **6 major aspects of the platform's evolution:**

- 1. Interface and content customisation**
- 2. Content enhancement**
- 3. Content Management optimisation**
- 4. Space socialisation**
- 5. Business process tooling**
- 6. Connecting third-party apps**

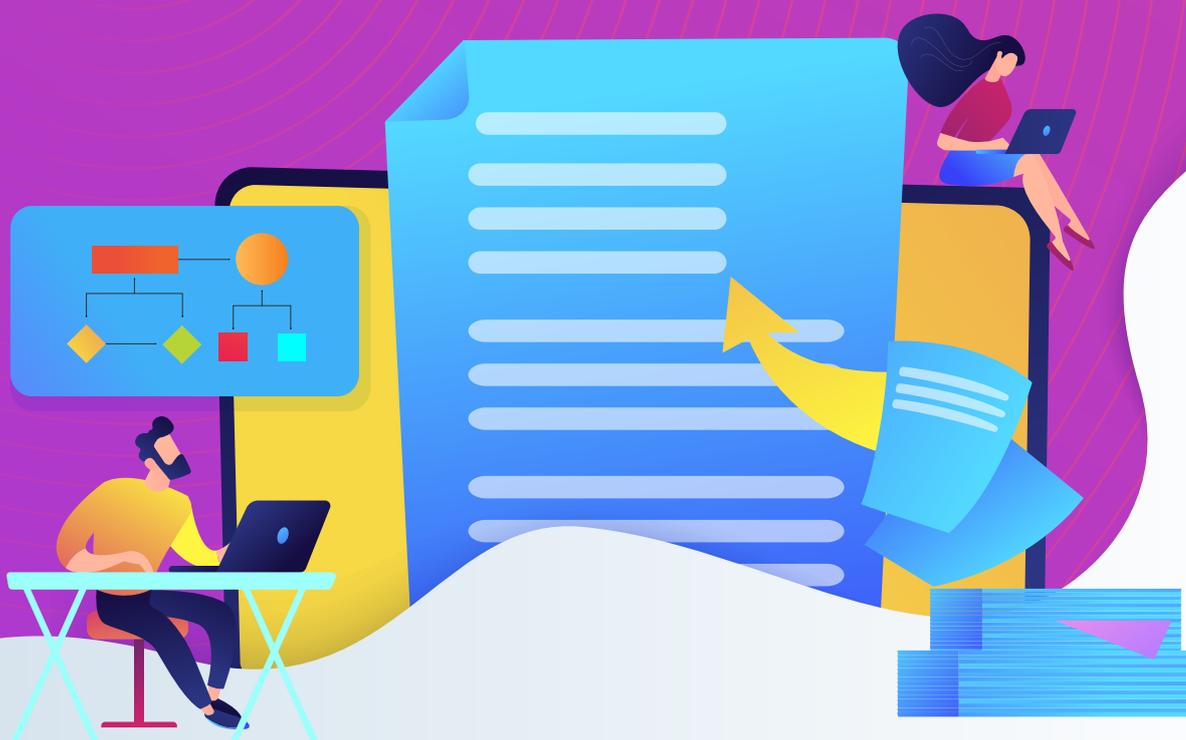
Overall, the study includes the analysis of more than **50 apps of the Atlassian marketplace.** A functional comparison of solutions from the same family is provided, as well as an analysis of the price and complexity of use of each solution. The document also illustrates the concepts offered by the marketplace editors. For each large family of uses, the study highlights what Confluence offers natively, and then recommends a selection of applications to evolve the functionalities. For the first edition of this Confluence Guide, a scope had to be defined and it may evolve significantly in upcoming editions.

An introduction to Confluence itself is presented, in order to unravel the different licensing modes, understand its native market positioning, and the potential contribution of the marketplace according to the chosen license.



E.

Equipping business processes



E.2 Forms

ften used in technical and very business contexts, Confluence platform knows how to use and process data, in tables, metadata, etc. The structure allows a powerful management of data entry interfaces, and it is well exploited by the marketplace.

We can imagine the simple use of questionnaires and surveys, contact forms, or even remote procedures, but the flexibility of configuring input fields can also be used to create customised interfaces for business uses.

There are some loyal marketplace regulars such as ServiceRocket or Adaptavist who adopt a different approach in this context. Forms for Confluence (Adaptavist) is still based on the classic use of the questionnaire form when Scaffolding (ServiceRocket) offers a more complex solution dedicated to data capture and exploitation in a broader sense. Its association with Reporting from the same editor provides important perspectives for data exploitation and presentation. Powerful tools useful to the business. On this principle, the ConfiForms solution may go further, subject to a significant increase in skills, because

if it is the most advanced solution, it is also the most difficult to apprehend. On the other hand, Simply Forms, only available on the Cloud, offers an excellent visual experience to easily create questionnaires and forms with a standard data processing.

The selected solutions offer the creation of data entry forms and the mechanisms to exploit them. These solutions are analysed according to the following criteria

- **Data acquisition:** Form configurator, field types, template library, field dependency, layout, external data ...
- **Data processing:** Export, notifications, storage, statistics, ...

	Forms (Adaptavist)	Simply Forms (Designextech)	Scaffolding (Service Rocket)	ConfiForms (Vertuna)
Complexity				
Cloud				
Data Center				
Server				
Data acquisition				
Data processing				

Forms for Confluence [Adaptavist]

Forms for Confluence is a marketplace legacy product for the detailed construction of forms. Adaptavist's solution has matured and offers up to 20 field types and default templates. The construction of a questionnaire is done by inserting nested macros to organise the order of questions, add sections to the page, or manage dependencies between fields. A question can then be displayed or not depending on a previous answer. This improves the user's typing experience, even if the tool does not add value to the austere visuals.

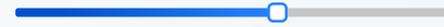
The answers are then sent by email to the person in charge, or stored in the database. It will even be possible to obtain statistics graphs from the administration, however an XLS/CSV export and spreadsheet processing will often be preferable since this allows better sorting of data.

For Cloud licenses, the solution has a significant loss of functionalities: the number of available fields is greatly reduced, form templates are no longer supported, data storage is only done by email or in a macro, statistics in admin are no longer available, etc.

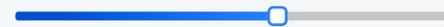
Issue date 2010 Downloads 1500+ Complexity 

Cloud  Data Center  Server 

Data acquisition



Data processing



Forms | destination = Event 24th of July

Forms - Page | formsPageTitle = Attendee Details

Forms - Input Field | name = First Name
First Name

Forms - Input Field | name = Last Name
Last Name

Forms - Input Field | name = Company
Company nam...

Forms - Radio button group | name = Job role
Job role Engineer
 Project Manager
 Vice President
 Owner
 Other

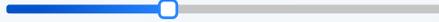
Forms - Textarea Field | name = Other job role
Other job role...

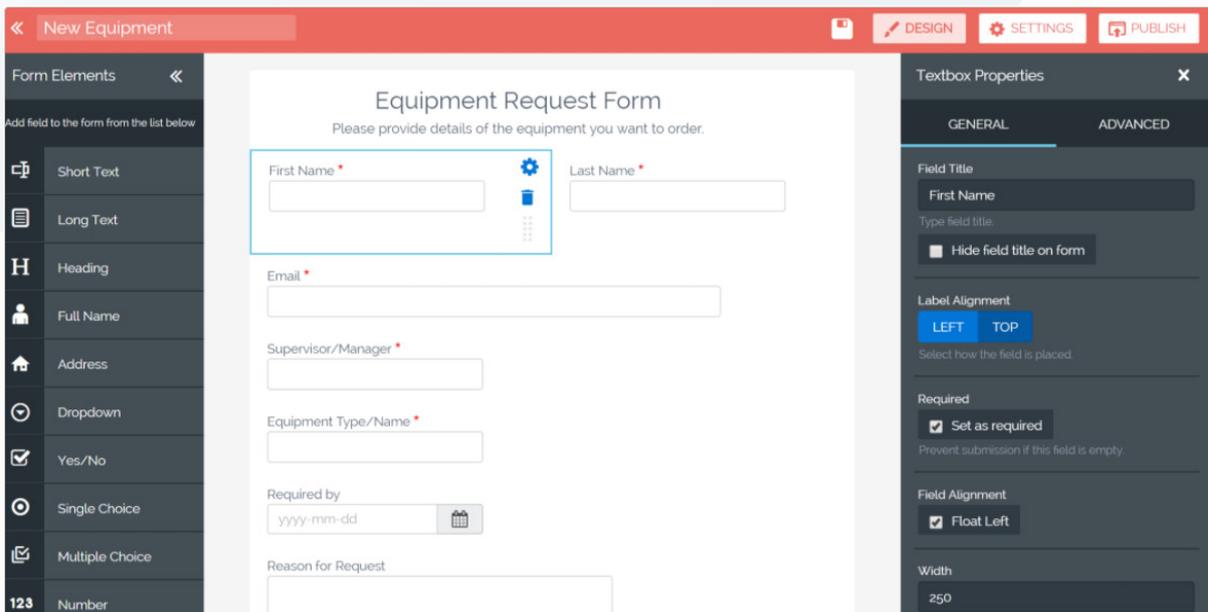
Forms - Radio button group | name = Department
Department IT
 Accounting
 Sales
 Marketing
 Human Resources
 Other

Forms - Textarea Field | name = Other department
Other departm...

Simply forms is a new solution available for Cloud licenses to manage forms. Designed specifically for Confluence Cloud and not an adaptation of a Server product, this product achieves high functional coverage and takes care of the user experience thanks to a powerful configurator to build forms and layout. The application offers default templates and a dozen field types. The application can be used for simple remote procedures, questionnaires and surveys, or even quizzes.

It also offers a dashboard for form entry and data export monitoring.

Issue date 2020	Downloads 50+	Complexity 
Cloud 	Data Center ×	Server ×
Data acquisition 		
Data processing 		





Scaffolding Forms & Templates [ServiceRocket]

Scaffolding is a data acquisition tool in the broadest sense. It can be used for forms, but it is intended for more advanced and business uses.

First of all, it adds a valuable function to Confluence: Live Templates. These allow you to create page templates in a way that any modification of the template will be applied retroactively to the content already created. This is a function that is useful for Scaffolding's approach of entering data on precise structures and via typed fields.

The solution is capable of performing calculations based on the input data, and can be connected to Reporting by the same editor to improve the data's exploitation and in particular to give it a visual display. Scaffolding is a framework for data entry and can be used for many purposes: project management, inventories, catalogues, reference database...Thus, implementation takes time and requires support or skill development.

Issue date 2007 Downloads 1500+ Complexity

Cloud Data Center Server

Data acquisition

Data processing

Forms

Task	Date Due	Staff	Actions
Prepare collateral	2018-09-15 10:30:00	<input type="text"/>	
Registration	2018-02-08 03:00:00	Tom Riddle - tom.riddle x	
Refreshments		Barbara Walton - barbara.walton x	
+ Add Row			

< **February 2018** >

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
03		:	00	:	00	

Creating forms is merely one of the functionalities offered by Vertuna's solution. It is in fact an application dedicated to managing and displaying data in the broadest sense. The technical base allows the management of forms, which for Vertuna remain lists of typed fields to be filled in... To do this, the tool offers nested macros, which do not facilitate creation but allow advanced functions for forms.

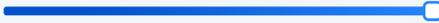
In addition to the data collection, possibly via forms, ConfiForm offers to restore them in many forms based on tables, lists, boxes, etc... The application also offers to associate forms with workflows, to give them the business remote procedure dimension that may be missing from other competing applications that focus on the concept of a simple questionnaire.

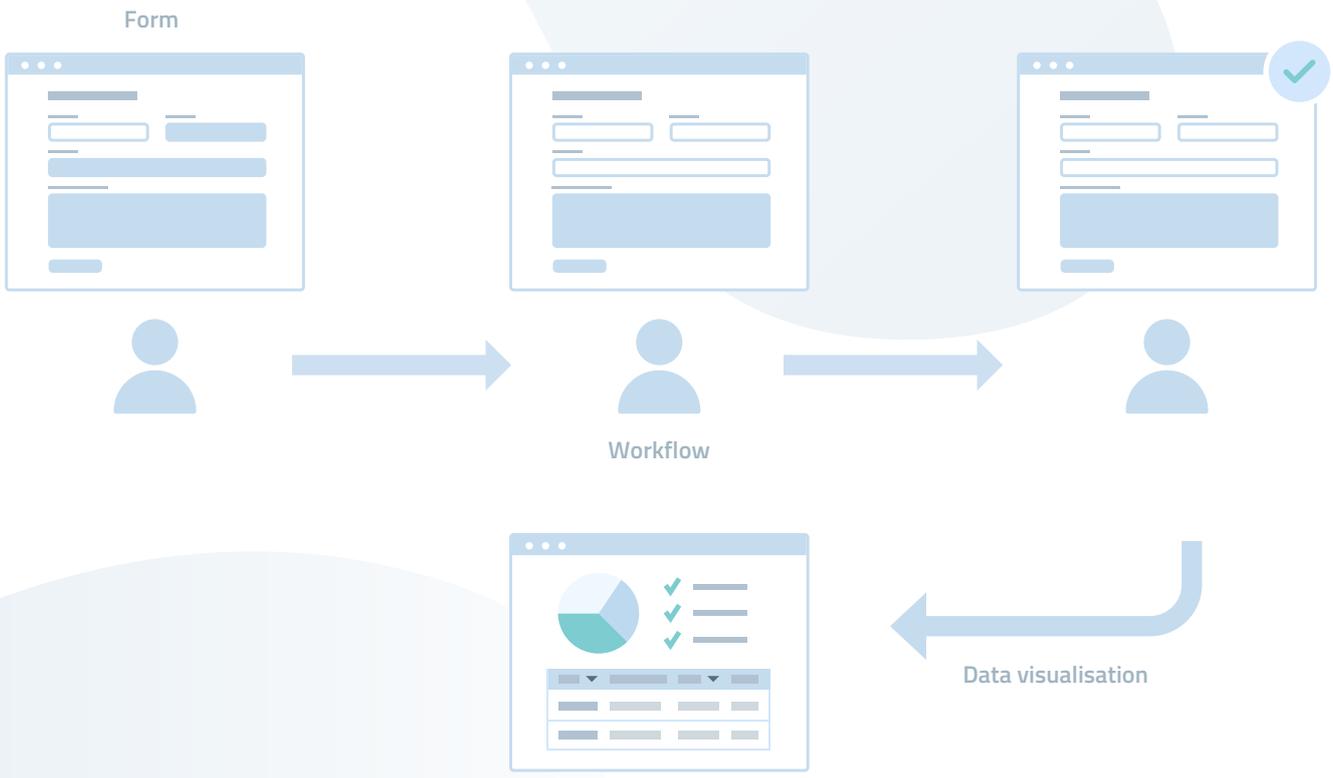
ConfiForms is a highly configurable application that requires a high level of expertise to be used properly.

Issue date 2015 Downloads 2000+ Complexity 

Cloud  Data Center  Server 

Data acquisition 

Data processing 



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