We've written quite a bit about the conundrum of writing requirements in an agile environment. The most important takeaway is: the best way to kick-off your software projects is to build a shared understanding amongst your team. At Atlassian we find the best way to do this is to create a collaborative product requirement to hash out details for large complex epics. When your requirement doc is created and the details are all in one place, it makes it a lot easier for Development and Design to provide immediate feedback and input. When this happens you can iterate quickly and implement work right away. Here's how you can create that requirement and build a shared understanding in Confluence:1. Start with our Product Requirements blueprintGet started with the special template that we've included. The template will help point you in the right direction, and provide some best practices for what content to include. 2. Communicate key detailsYour requirements page might be laser focused on a particular feature, or it might include requirements for a release that includes multiple features. Either way, you should capture key high level details at the top of the page for easy reference.Participants: Who is involved? Use @mentions to include the product owner, and other stakeholderStatus: What's the current state of the program? Use the status macro to quickly show if you're on target, at risk, delayed, deferred, etc.Target release: When is it projected to ship? If you use JIRA, link to your JIRA project. Created with Sketch. Pro tip When you create your first product requirement doc in Confluence you'll notice the project details are in a table located in a page properties panel. The page properties macro is a powerful macro that allows you to create a summary page that 3. goals, business objectives, and strategic fit The team goals and business objectives section is meant to give you a chance to add some color and context to your requirement. A good way to think about your goals is from your customers perspective. What exactly are they trying to achieve? How does the solution you're proposing fit into it? This is a great place to link to other Confluence pages to provide more detail including customer interviews, and planning pages.4. Create user s Created with Sketch. Pro tip It's really easy to turn the user stories you write in Confluence into JIRA issues. When the page is saved, just highlight the user story text, and Confluence will give you the option to create JIRA issues. If you have a full table full of user stories, you can convert them all into JIRA issues at once. 5. Review user experience and design Created with Sketch. Pro tip Confluence is perfect for collaborating on wireframes, mockups, and design prototypes. Use the rich file viewer to preview PDFs, images, and powerpoint presentations. You can pin comments directly on files to provide feedback in context. Your design, and dev team can spar on early mockups on the same page. 6. Address questions and clarificationsAs the team understands the problems to solve, they often have questions. Create a table of "things we need to decide or research" to track these items. Keep the team focused on the work at hand by clearly calling out what . Flag things that are out of scope at the moment, but might be looked at later. 7. Trace requirements to JIRA issuesMost likely you and/or your development team a lot of time in JIRA. It's really easy to get from your Confluence requirement to your JIRA epic and vice versa. You can view all the JIRA links on any Confluence page, by clicking on the JIRA links button at the top of your saved page.8. Your Product Requirements index pageYou're probably not just working on one project. Confluence automatically creates an index page that pulls in the key details of all your team's product requirements. You can always access this index page in the Space sidebar.t's a handy way to see what your team is or has been working on at a high level. Just like any page in Confluence you can edit this index page as you see fit. Bonus: Customize the Product Requirements Blueprint to fit your team's workflowYou can edit the Product Requirements blueprint at any time and tailor it to fit your team's specific needs. If you want to edit the template for your specific team or project, go to the Space Tools menu and select Content Tools. Under the Templates option you can view and edit any of the templates included. If you're a site admin you can also edit the global template to customize it company-wide.At a glance: what did you just learn?The key to agile requirements is buidling a shared understanding amongst your team. The best way to do this is creating your high level requirements doc in Confluence, and collaborating across development and design on crucial issues. Use our template as a guide, and customize it to fit your team or company's workflow.Here's the completed requirementand a rundown of what we covered:Product Requirements Blueprint: It does most of the work for you. Follow the page outline, and fill in content that makes sense for your specific requirement.Page properties macro: This macro makes it possible to create a reporting page across all your requirements. When using the blueprint it will be included on your page.Product Requirements index: Once you've created a few requirements pages, you can see all the high level details at a glance on an index page that Confluence automatically creates when you use the blueprint.Create JIRA issues: Highlight text on the requirements page to quickly convert it to a JIRA issue. File comments: Add your design files to the page and encourage discussion on them with pinned comments.JIRA links: Just look in the page header to see all the JIRA issues that are included in the requirement. Customizing Blueprints: You can edit any of the blueprints that come included in Confluence to fit your specific workflow.This post is part of our latest collection, A Software Team's Guide to Confluence. Click the lovely green button below to see more. Effective teams thrive on visibility, collaboration, and shared knowledge—precisely what Confluence is built for.With Confluence Whiteboards, teams can visually map out roles, brainstorm ideas, and create interactive team overviews that evolve as the team grows. Whether onboarding new employees or strengthening cross-team collaboration, Whiteboards provide a dynamic, engaging way to connect people and processes.Confluence Pages ensure that introductions and team details are not lost in scattered emails or chat threads. By centralizing team profiles, responsibilities, and key resources in one place, Pages help employees quickly find the right contacts and align on projects.From marketing to engineering to sales, Confluence's Meet the Team template makes it easy to introduce team members, highlight expertise, and create a more connected, informed workplace—all within a scalable, flexible workspace designed for modern teams. Confluence has an article, on how to develop a generic technical document, but it doesn't actually have a real template for a technical specification document. I don't want to create one from scratch and add in the various macros that they recommended if there's already one that's developed that I can just use (and make any necessary edits). A major part of any great development process is making sure the technical specifications are as clear as possible for the development team. Clear functional requirements, help the team understand what they are trying to build and the end goal, this makes the development process more efficient and increases the velocity of the team. Our development team created technical specifications template as a key part of our internal development workflow. We had to create one because, after a thorough search, we didn't find any that matched our needs. The development team uses it to seek the feedback, de-risk the implementation phase, estimate and split into sub-tasks. Another great thing is that, with the GitHub links for Confluence integration, the development team can directly link the technical specifications document to any GitHub repository, previously created pull requests or examples. The team members can use the technical specifications to make sure commits and pull requests are aligned with the functional requirements throughout the development stage. Technical specs are also used as a documentation and help more Junior or new developers learn the nuts and bolts of a new system. You can find our Technical Specifications Template here - Atlassian Confluence Technical Specifications Template Let us know if you find it helpful. Functional Specification TemplateBy Mary Jo Kochendorfer (Deactivated) OpenLMIS: the global initiative for powerful LMIS software