

# Log Work

You can log work as you are used from JIRA. **vertime** enhances the existing log work screen and adds some convenience features for logging work faster and more efficiently, like

- resuming an existing work log
- accessing the last work log from the "My Last Work Log" panel on the issue screen
- accessing your last work logs from the "Recent Work Log" list in the **vertime** navigation.

This chapter describes how to create, edit, resume and delete work logs. Please also refer to [Manage Work Logs](#).



You can also create, edit, resume and delete work logs directly from your timesheet without having to navigate to an issue in JIRA (see [Timesheet](#)), or you can create new work logs directly from the JIRA navigation bar.

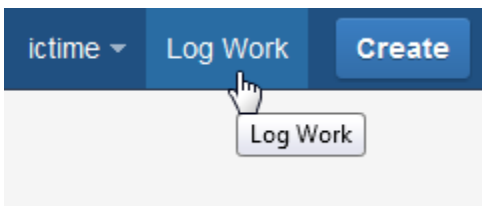
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## Where You Can Log Work

**vertime** adds the option to log work in a couple of new places, and in addition you'll find the "Log Work" options in all places where you are already used to from JIRA.

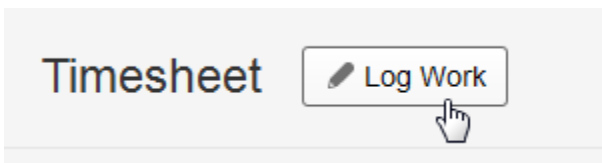
- **JIRA Navigation Bar**

If you have the respective permission, you can use the "Log Work" item in the **JIRA navigation bar**, next to the "vertime" navigation element (note that in case of very low screen resolutions, JIRA will move the option into a "More" dropdown).



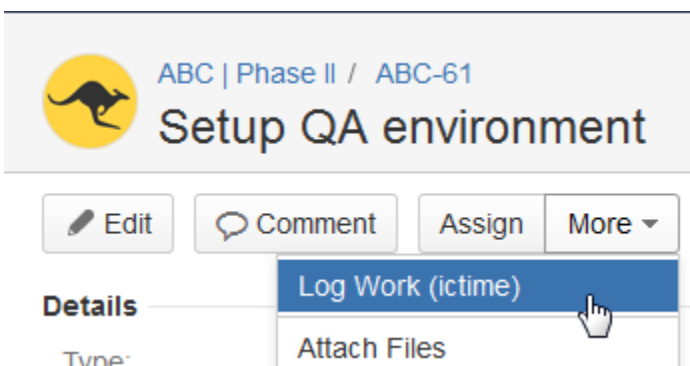
- **Timesheet**

If you have access to timesheets, you can log work with the respective button on the timesheet.



- **Issue Screen: More Actions/Log Work**

This is the standard way of logging work from the issue screen.



- **Issue Screen: JIRA "Time Tracking" panel**

If you have already logged work on an issue (or have defined an estimate of work required for the issue), the JIRA "Time Tracking" panel will be available on the screen and you can also log work here using the "+" icon.

**Time Tracking** +

Estimated: Log Work for this issue

Not Specified

Remaining: 0h

Logged: 3.02h

- **Issue Screen: "My Last Work Log" panel**

This panel is added by *ictime* and is always present, even if you did not log work yet and have no work estimate. You can log work using the "+" icon.




**My Last Work Log** +

**My Last Work Log** +

Date: 10.09.2014 11:31


Description: check back some open...

Time: 0h 16m

- **JIRA Issue Navigator (Actions/Log Work dropdown)**

The "Actions" dropdown in the JIRA Issue Navigator also offers the possibility to log work.

<del>John Doe</del>	22.11.2012	22.11.2012	RESOLVED	
John Doe	19.11.2012	01	<div> View Issue  Reopen Issue  Close Issue  Edit  Assign  Assign to me  Comment  <b>Log Work (ictime)</b>  Attach Files </div>	
<del>John Doe</del>	06.11.2012	06		
<del>John Doe</del>	02.11.2012	05		
John Doe	02.11.2012	06		
John Doe	22.10.2012	22		
<del>John Doe</del>	15.10.2012	05		
<del>John Doe</del>	08.10.2012	08		
<del>John Doe</del>	08.10.2012	08		
<del>John Doe</del>	08.10.2012	08		

There might be other places, like e.g. Dashboard gadgets that display issues and also provide an issue operations (actions) dropdown.



As it is not possible that **ictime** overrides existing JIRA "log work" actions, **ictime** has to add own actions. This means that in some places, you will see two "Log Work" options after installation of **ictime**. There is some configuration work required to solve this issue, please refer here for more details: [Hide/Disable JIRA's "Log Work" Dialogue and "Edit Work Log" Option](#).

Please note that **ictime** automatically redirects the option to log work from the JIRA "Time Tracking" panel to the **ictime** screen (this is the only place where this can be done automatically).



Apart from the places mentioned above (where you can open the "**Log Work**" dialogue), the log work option might also appear **as part of other screens during workflow transitions**. By default, this is the case e.g. for the "Resolve Issue" screen. See [Custom Log Work Field for ictime](#) for more information.


## Log Work (ictime) Screen



If you enable all **ictime** features, the "Log Work" screen will look like this:

## Log Work

User:

Issue:

Date:  

Time: ☒ From   To  

☐ Time spent  (e.g. 3w 4d 12h)

Corrected Result


Remaining Estimate ☒ Automatically

☐ Leave blank

☐ Set to  (e.g. 3w 4d 12h)

☐ Reduce by  (e.g. 3w 4d 12h)

No charge ☐ Info

Activity:  

Description:

Add Cancel

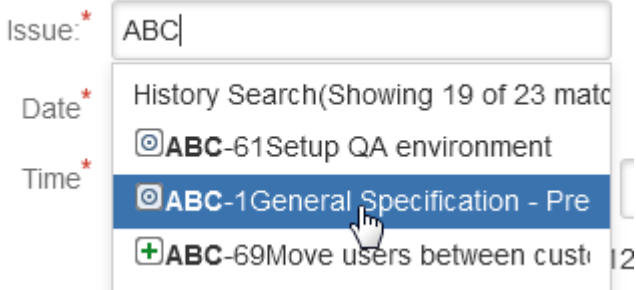


From **ictime** version 4.2 on, this dialogue will also offer the option to tick a checkbox to directly create another work log.


In this case, the dialogue won't close after saving and you can add the next work log.

 Which options/fields are available in your specific case depend on

- your **ictime** configuration (see table below and [General Configuration](#))
- your project configuration, specifically as regards teams & price lists and activity types (see table below and [Project Configuration](#))
- your Work Log Attribute (WLA) configuration (see [Work Log Attributes \(WLA\)](#), available since **ictime** version 4.2)

The following table describes all fields, including the ones that you already know from the JIRA default "Log Work" screen:

Field	Description	Configurable	Remarks
User	Current user or user picker (if you have respective permissions).		If you have the <b>ictime</b> permission "Log work for other users", you can change the user here and this way, can create work logs for other users.
Issue	<p>Issue picker. If you are calling the "Log Work" screen from an issue (JIRA issue screen or JIRA Issue Navigator), the issue will be pre-populated.</p> <p>If you call the "Log Work" screen from the JIRA navigation, your timesheet etc., you will be required to select an issue first. To select/change an issue, start to type part of the issue description or key in the "Issue" field. The JIRA issue picker will return suggestions:</p> 		<p>Please note that the issue is required for <b>ictime</b> to determine the project and this way determines activity types (if applicable).</p>
Date	Date, shows today's date (and current time) for new work logs.		<p>You can change the date into the past or future, too. By default in JIRA, JIRA writes a complete timestamp for the work log.</p> <p><b>ictime</b> provides separate fields for start and end time. The time component of this field is not used by <b>ictime</b>. However, there might be use cases where you want to use this data from the JIRA work log.</p> <p>If using the calendar, the date you have chosen will take the current time. To define a different time, make sure that you enter date and time in your JIRA date &amp; time settings (see <a href="#">Time &amp; Date Settings</a> and <a href="#">Time &amp; Date Settings</a> error when saving).</p>
Time	<p>Log work/time as a time span/period "from-to" (start-end time).</p> <p>Use the icon  to enter your current system time for "from" and "to".</p>	<p>Available yes/no, see <a href="#">General Configuration</a>.</p> <p>Force time tracking without overlapping work logs, see <a href="#">General Configuration</a>.</p>	<p>You log e.g. from 12:34 to 14:56, and <b>ictime</b> calculates the time spent (displayed as read-only field behind the time fields).</p>  <p>The resulting time spent of from/to has to be greater than 0. If you enter a time in from/to, they will automatically create a time span that won't be 0.</p> <p>If you (only) use this way to log work, you can avoid overlapping start/end times (see <a href="#">General Configuration</a>). If you use other ways to log work, users will just get a warning if the start/end time of one work log overlaps with the start/end time of another work log of the same user.</p> <p>Possible time format is taken from your instance (see <a href="#">Time &amp; Date Settings</a>); that means that you can define in JIRA. However, the defined format for entering time/date (<b>we can't support multiple</b> formats).</p>
Time Spent	Log work/time as a result. This is the default way you log work in JIRA.	Available yes/no, see <a href="#">General Configuration</a> .	e.g. as 12 or 12h, according to your JIRA time tracking configuration in JIRA under: <b>Administration - System</b> (see <a href="#">Time &amp; Date Settings</a> for estimates & default unit for time tracking)

Corrected Time Spent (Corrected Result)	You can enter a time value that is different from the "time spent" value or the calculated time spent of logging work with a start and end time.	Available yes /no, see <a href="#">General Configuration</a> .	Used to charge more or less time than the time that is spent.  In the summary of a report, the corrected time spent calculated time spent of logging work with a start and end time (see <a href="#">Project Rounding Rules</a> ). Rounding rules (see <a href="#">Project Rounding Rules</a> ) taken exactly like entered by the user.
Remaining Estimate	Various (JIRA) options to set or calculate the remaining estimate, if a work estimate has been done for the issue.	Available yes /no, see <a href="#">General Configuration</a> .  If "no", <b>icetime</b> will always calculate the remaining estimate automatically. If there is no original estimate, nothing will be done.	See <a href="#">Work Estimates, Remaining Estimate</a> .
No Charge	Mark a work log as not to be charged and enter an optional comment/reason.	Available yes /no, see <a href="#">General Configuration</a> .	In the summary of a report, the work log would be considered as not charged (see <a href="#">Reports: Summary &amp; Analysis</a> ).  An administrative user can change this setting when charging work logs in the Reporting section. See <a href="#">Reporting</a> .
Activity	Choose an activity type to categorise your work.  If activity types are activated in <b>icetime</b> (see <a href="#">Activity Types</a> ), this interface will offer the activity type dropdown. This dropdown will be empty as long as you did not select an issue, as the activity types available for this issue might depend on your project configuration in <b>icetime</b> (see <a href="#">Project Activity Types</a> ).	Available yes /no, see <a href="#">Activity Types</a> and <a href="#">Project Activity Types</a>	<div> This is only available and mandatory if you have activated activity types (see <a href="#">Activity Types</a>) or have deactivated them (see <a href="#">Project Activity Types</a>).  If your current project has exactly one activity type pre-populated with this activity type.</div>
Work Description	Description of your work.		Mandatory.



It is up to you whether you log work as a result ("time spent") or a time span ("from-to"). You can use both methods for the same issue and can also change this for a work log when editing or resuming a work log. If you switch from "span/period" to "Time Spent" and save, of course you will lose start and end time for this work log. If you switch from "Time Spent" to "span/period", of course you will need to set a suitable start and end time.

Logging work as time span has the following advantages:

- If it is about being exact, and about strictly avoiding that people start to make notes on time spent on paper or in files and register the (rough) result later on in JIRA, the proper way is to register time "from" and "to".
- This also includes the option to register exactly, but to apply a rounding rule for invoicing purposes (you won't charge 6 minutes for support, but probably 15 or 30 minutes as minimum - but it is still nice that you can see that only 6 minutes had been required to solve the issue).
- Finally logging work as time span gives you the opportunity to force time tracking without overlapping work logs (see [General Configuration](#)).

## Resume a Work Log

Resuming a work log means to **create a new work log with data of an existing one**, but pre-populating date field and time fields (if applicable) according to the current date and time. This is basically like "copying" some data of an existing work log.



This feature is useful if you e.g. are making a break and after your break, resume your work. This is why we call it "resume" and not simply "copy". You save time as data is already pre-populated. Do not get confused with the operation of editing an existing work log, resuming really **creates a new work log**.

On issue level, the feature is available either




- in the "My Last Work Log" panel

### My Last Work Log +

Date: 05.08.2014 00:27

Description: description of my wo...

Time: 0h 1m









  

**Resume Work Log**

Σ My Time  0h 4m

Σ Others  0h 14m

- or in the "Work Log (ictime)" tab.

All	Comments	Work Log (ictime)	History	Activity	> My Last W									
05.08.2014	Another One	description of my wo...	Thomas Time	12:22	12:23	0h 1m	(0.0)	--					<b>Resume Work Log</b>	
14.02.2014	None	test updated 17.02.	Thomas Time	10:06	10:09	0h 3m	--	--						

Click the icon






to resume the respective work log. The interface is the same like for creating a new work log from the scratch (see above). Date and time fields are pre-populated according to the current date (and time, if you have logged work as time span). You can modify all fields.

## Resume Work Log

User:\*

Issue:\*

Date\*  

Time\* ☒ From   To  

☐ Time spent  (e.g. 3w 4d 12h)

Corrected Result


Remaining Estimate ☒ Automatically

☐ Leave blank

☐ Set to  (e.g. 3w 4d 12h)

☐ Reduce by  (e.g. 3w 4d 12h)

No charge ☐ Info

Activity\*  

Description\*

[Cancel](#)



If you can resume a work log (= create a new work log) depends on

- the **ictime** project status (you can't create new work logs any longer if the project status is "inactive" or "closed")
- and the JIRA issue status (you can't create new work logs for closed issues).



Work Log Attributes ([Work Log Attributes \(WLA\)](#)) are currently not properly supported when resuming work logs.

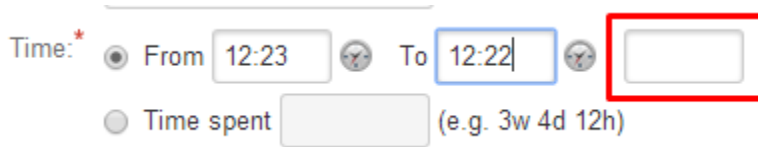


## Manage Work Logs (Edit & Delete)

Once you have created a work log, there are a couple of places where you can access/view your work log and can edit or delete it. Please refer to [Manage Work Logs](#).

### Known Issue: Time Not Calculated When Using Start/End Time

If you are entering a start and end time for a work log ("from/to") and the resulting time spent is not calculated, this can have two reasons.



Time: ☒ From 12:23 ☐ To 12:22 ☐ Time spent (e.g. 3w 4d 12h)

First possible reason is that - like in the screenshot above - you have (accidentally) entered an end time which is before the start time. In this case, of course there is no result. You will get an error when trying to save.

The second, more complex reason - that might result in the same error message, but without getting obvious why the message is displayed - is that you have a specific non-consistent date & time setting configured in JIRA. This will happen if you have configured time settings in JIRA (**Administration / System / Look and Feel / Date-Time Formats**) as 12 hour clock, but without defining the AM/PM parameter.

- That means that you have defined "Time Format" as "hh:mm" or "h:mm". This is 12 hour clock without AM/PM information and unfortunately, JIRA accepts this time format, even if it can't work. In this specific case, **ictime** won't be able to calculate correctly only for the case your work log starts before 12:00 and ends after 12:00 (the end time, without AM/PM information is correctly interpreted as starting from 0 again, so 12:03 would be 00:03 from a technical point of view, and this means that your end time is before the start time).
- Correct setting in JIRA would be "h:mm a" or "hh:mm a" (this is 12 hour clock plus AM/PM information) or just as 24 hour format (H:mm or HH:mm).

For more information on date & time settings in JIRA, please refer to [Time & Date Settings](#).