Gantt-Chart for JIRA (Polscheit)

With over 2300 installations, this is the second most popular Gantt chart plugin for JIRA. But is it also in the top of quality? Yes and no. Read on to find out why!

The installation process is rather tedious, as it requires the user to manually go to the plugin administration section of JIRA and configure it there. Luckily, the documentation is pretty good (that is, accessible and in English). I do admire the small graphics illustrating each option.

Just like jPlug’s solution, this one also integrates deeply with projects and the Gantt charts are visible on the left-hand side of the project’s overview. But this is where the similarities end. For starters, Frank Polscheit managed to make the Gantt itself big enough for actual work, even a fullscreen mode is available. You can also configure things from the Gantt itself, without digging through the global JIRA configuration panels. Nothing really innovative here, but the ability to customize columns, colors and dependencies on the fly is always nice and something that every Gantt plugin should have. The issue bars look rather crude, but the interface does its job - seems like the recent versions made it a bit more minimalistic, which is very nice. Plugin performance is acceptable, a single browser crash occurred but this may just be the local machine.
The top timeline is somewhat wonky on Firefox, but that's just visual - it works when drag and dropped and changes the visible task period. Load (allocation) is shown on each day and the chart can be used for very basic resource management. Edit and view-only modes available, as well as an exporting mechanism (including PowerPoint).

All in all - not bad! Compared to WBS or jPlug's Gantt plugins for JIRA, Gantt-Chart can be used in real production environments. Nothing to write home about, but still a solid piece of software.