

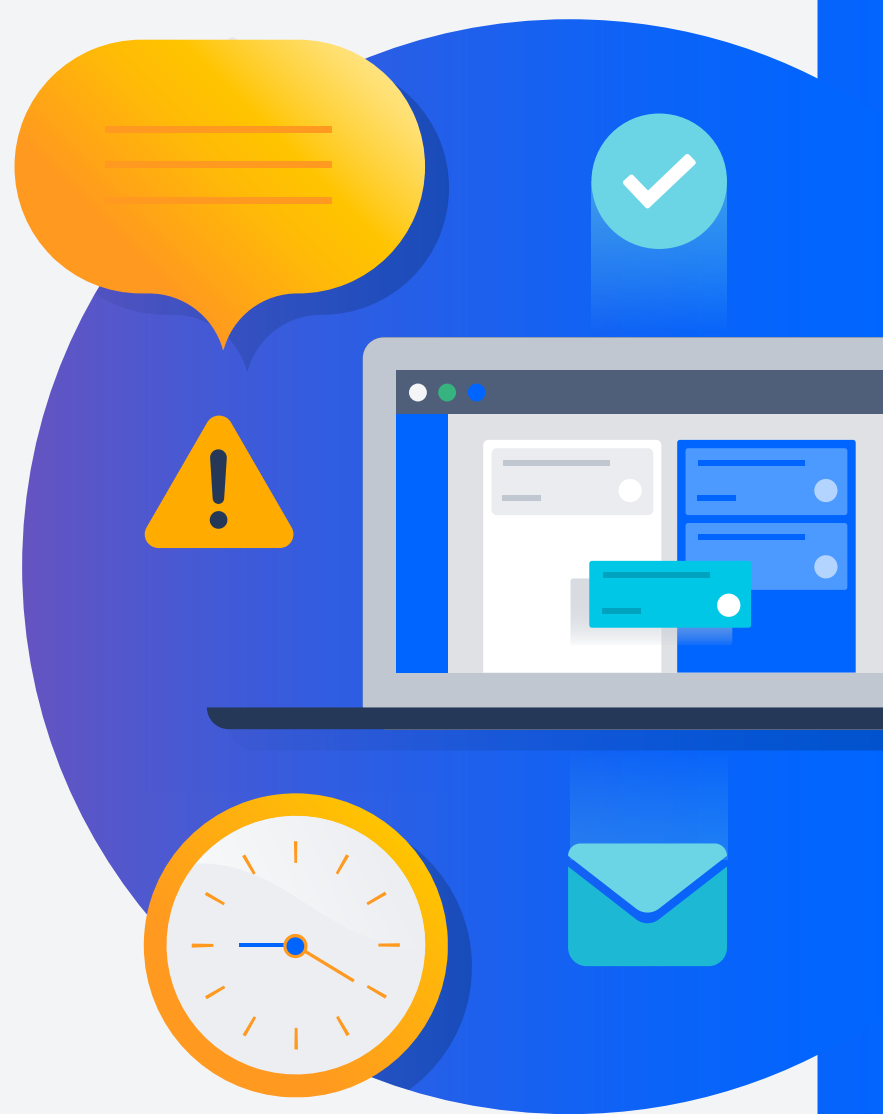
Asynchronous collaboration 101

The practice

The word asynchronous means “not occurring at the same time.” **Asynchronous work** (different from ‘remote work’) is when people work when it’s best for them— they complete tasks on their own time, and communicate with colleagues knowing they might not hear back right away.

Asynchronous collaboration

relies on digital tools to keep everyone on the same page and moving in the same direction, which can include real-time work in the tool at the same time. This enables collaboration between people in different places without needing to hold a meeting to accomplish the same tasks.



Origin

While the term “asynchronous” is particularly buzzy today, it’s not a new idea. We used to call remote work “telecommuting”—a term coined all the way back in 1973 by a NASA engineer.

Through the 90s and early 2000s, companies like IBM implement “work from home” policies and startup-garage-culture picked up, and distributed workforces became more popular.

According to a recent survey from Getapp, the number of people working from home in America rose **400%** from 2010 until early 2020.

Can you imagine the percentage jump from 2020 to 2021?

