Watchers

Field code
`%{issue.watcher}`

Read

Returned value	A comma-separated **list of usernames**
Output data type	TEXT
Example output	username1, username2, username3

Write

Valid text input	A comma-separated **list of usernames**, **group names** or **project roles names** ⓘ
Valid numerical input	
Example input	username1, username2, username3

Sets the watchers of an issue **replacing** existing watchers! If you just want to add new watchers, see New watchers.

Prefixes **+** and **–** can be used to **add** or **remove** watchers.

Input	Description
Albert, Richard, John	**Replaces** the current watchers with users **Albert**, **Richard** and **John**.
+ Developers, Administrators	**Adds every user** in project **roles** or **groups** Developers and Administrators as current watchers.
- Testers, Administrators, + Albert, Richard	**Removes users** in project **roles** or **groups** Testers and Administrators, and **adds users** Albert and Richard as watchers.

Use this field to add or remove watchers to **linked issues**, **sub-tasks** or issues returned by **JQL.**

To learn more about this writable field, check the following use cases:

- **Automatically become watcher of every issue blocking an issue assigned to you**
- **Add watchers depending on the value of a custom field**