draw.io

Atlassian Team ‘25

Build your dream ~~house~~ project with draw.io

Build something special

Construction and project management share a lot in common. You work from the ground up, planning and ideating before you start building. Strong foundations make for a solid structure and a smooth kick-off. Regular check-ins throughout ensure deadlines are kept, and things don't get off track. But most importantly, it takes a team with a shared vision to build a house, just like it takes a team to see a project from inception to fruition.

For Team '25, our theme was *Build your dream ~~house~~ project with draw.io*. Over the course of the series, we covered topics like: the power of working as a cross-functional team, how to ensure your sprint is well planned out and runs efficiently, and how to refine and optimize your processes.

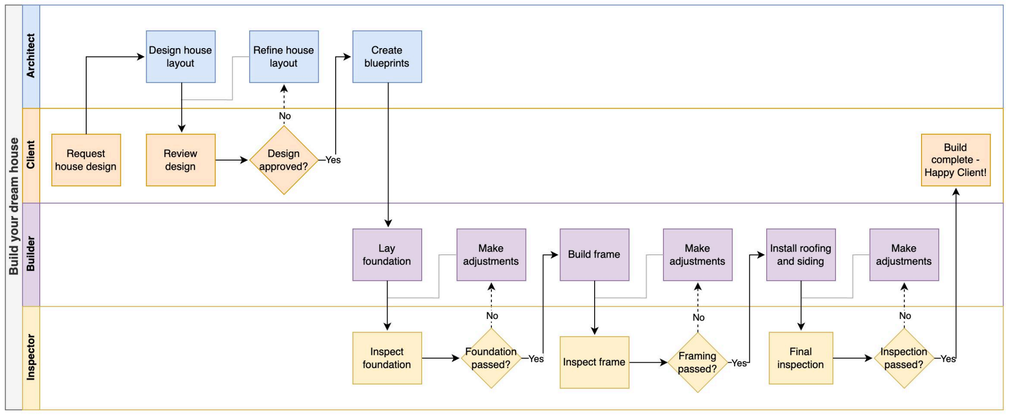
We looked at how diagramming can be used for any project, big or small, and how draw.io accompanies you and your team throughout your project and helps you accomplish your goals!



Built for success: Working in a cross-functional team

With the right foundations in place, cross-functional teams can thrive. In this blogpost, we looked at the benefits of cross-functional teams and how they can optimize their workflow for successful project completion. Two key takeaways were:

- **Cross-functional teams, when well-managed, are highly effective.** Combining diverse expertise and drawing on insights from different professional backgrounds contributes to project (and team) success.
- **Visual tools like draw.io and collaborative platforms like Confluence are crucial**, as they provide clarity and security, with all company data securely stored in an organization's single source of truth.

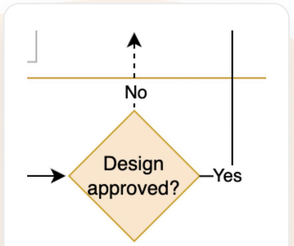


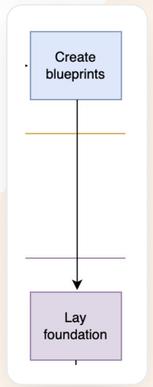
We used a swimlane diagram to illustrate how visualizing roles and responsibilities can help. This clarifies delegation and handoffs, which in turn streamlines processes and improves collaboration.

Swimlane diagrams are a great way to help teams become better aligned. They achieve this by providing:

Clarity: Everyone has a distinct role in the project, with the tasks of each individual clearly outlined. Swimlane diagrams convey details with minimal explanation:

Decisions are represented by decision splits, with processes followed being adapted depending on the outcome.





Task hand-offs are represented by connectors. These connectors direct the diagram viewer along the process from start to finish.

Built for success: Working in a cross-functional team

Transparency: Each team member has a role to play, and when they communicate transparently on where they are with their tasks, everyone has an accurate overview of the project status.

In particular, we highlight the "***@-mention***" feature in Confluence pages or Jira tickets in order to notify colleagues and quickly convey information. Communicating regularly throughout the project helps address issues quickly and prevents them from escalating.

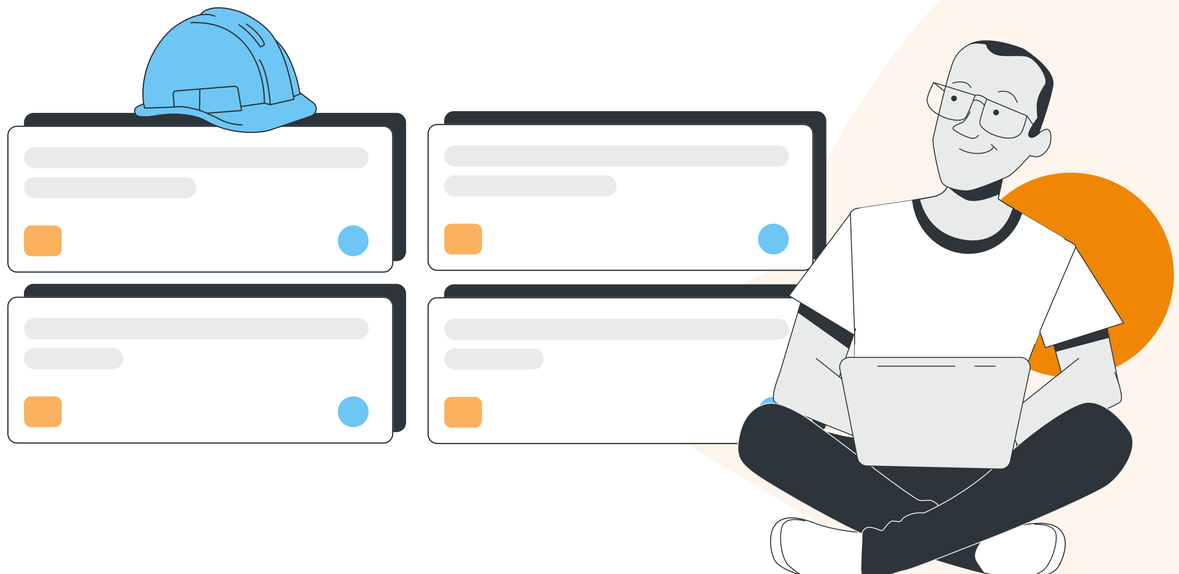
Alignment: As part of the shared project vision, the team should be aligned on what needs to be achieved and when.

Alignment extends not just to a shared project vision but also to clarity on team members' involvement in project decisions - **RACI charts** are a great way to outline this.

In a nutshell, strong team alignment reduces inefficiencies and the risk of miscommunication. Having a healthy feedback culture, with processes incorporating feedback loops, is vital. It means colleagues take a critical approach to their tasks, and if they are receptive to feedback (positive and constructive), then both the individual and the team learn from mistakes and grow.

To find out more, see:

- Blogpost: ***Built for success: Working in a cross-functional team***
- YouTube video: ***Most teams get this wrong***



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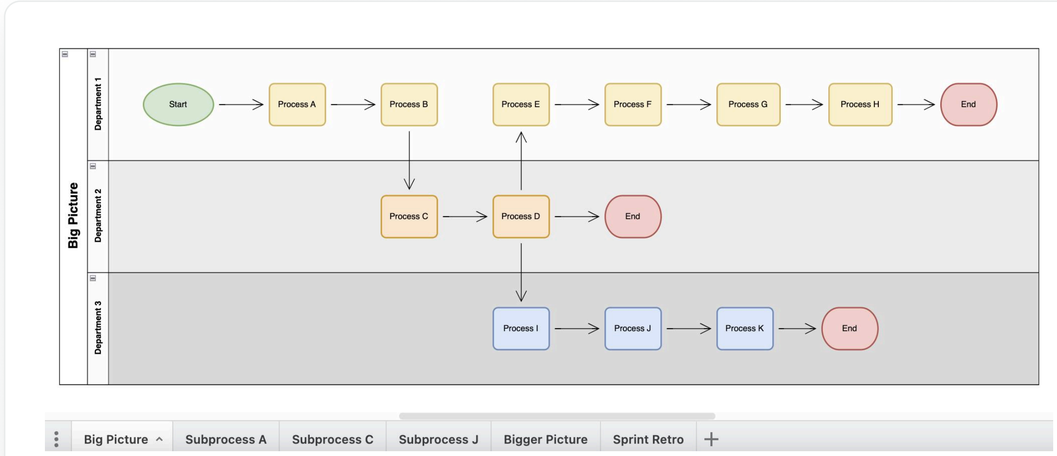
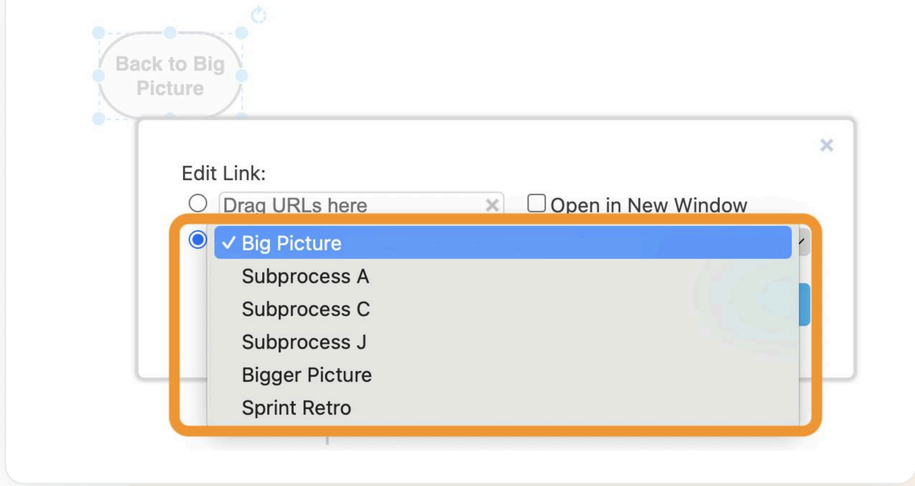
Keeping it Agile: Maximize Sprint efficiency with draw.io and Jira

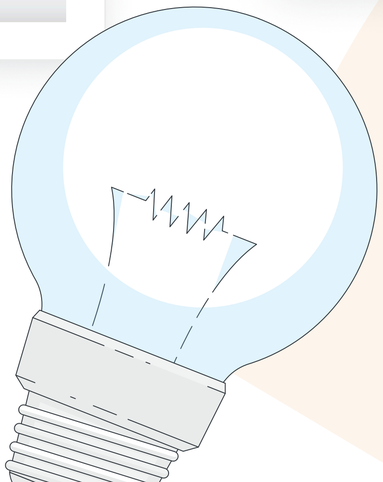
There are a lot of moving parts when it comes to planning and executing during a Sprint. We look at how building a big picture diagram in draw.io for Jira helps teams grasp the overall process, and see how the different stages follow on from each other.

We take a quick look at the agile concepts Definition of Ready and Definition of Done, and then dive into a big picture diagram that contains multiple pages. The diagram outlines each process, with subprocesses mapped out on separate pages.



Next, we look at the steps involved to add a diagram to a Jira ticket. You can create new or embed existing diagrams, and export the entire diagram, or specific sections. Another great feature is the ability to add custom links to your diagram - this helps users quickly navigate between different pages of the diagram, or to external webpages.

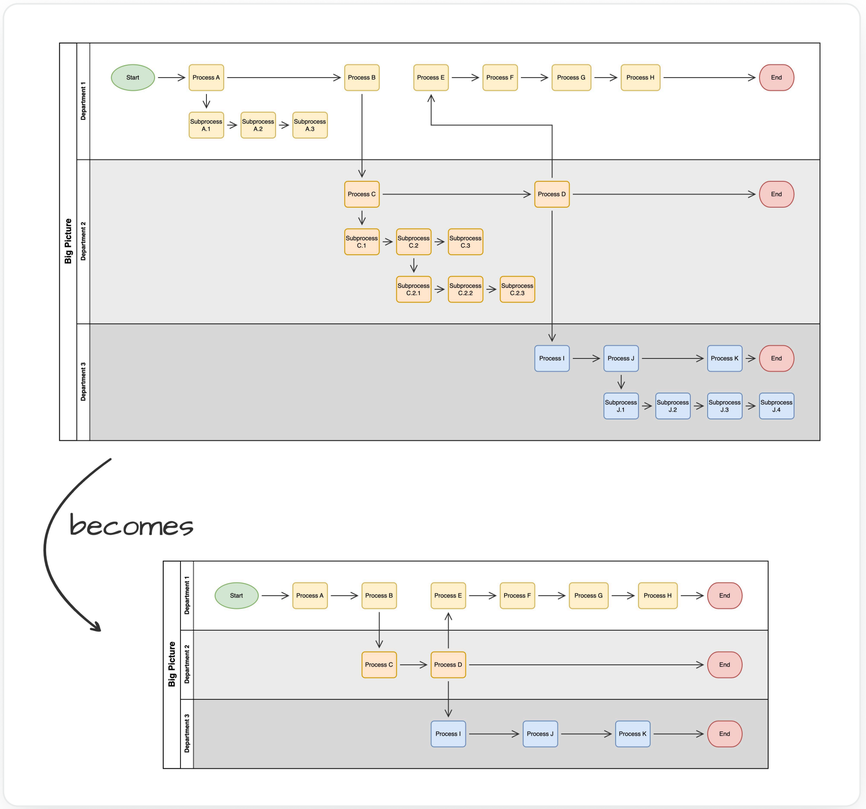




Keeping it Agile: Maximize Sprint efficiency with draw.io and Jira

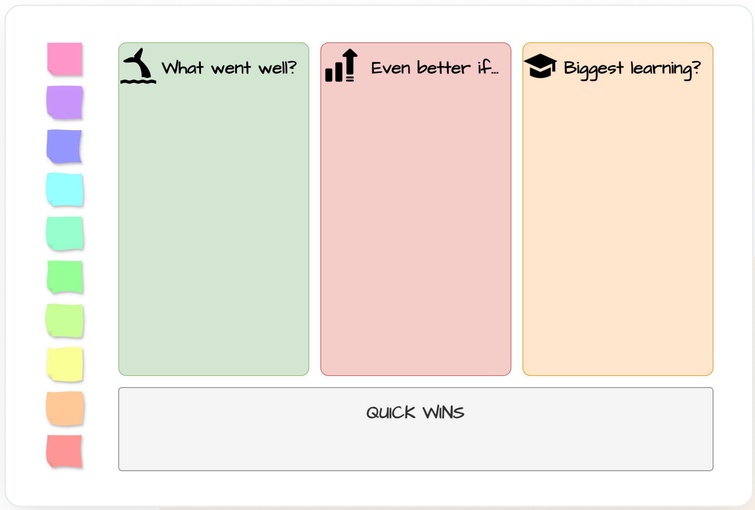
But why have a big picture diagram spread across multiple pages in the first place?

The following image speaks for itself. The first picture maps out the entire process, the second shows how streamlined and easy-to-read your diagram becomes!



Nothing ever tends to go according to plan, especially during Sprints! We take a look at running a Sprint Retro in draw.io, to help teams celebrate success, and reflect and learn from what didn't go well, to improve for next time.

The diagram below shows a Sprint Retro template, where teammates can add stickies capturing their thoughts.



To find out more, see:

- Blogpost: ***Keeping it Agile: Maximize Sprint efficiency with draw.io and Jira***
- Instagram reel: ***Maximize Jira ticket efficiency with draw.io***

From Draft to Done: Refine your ideas with draw.io

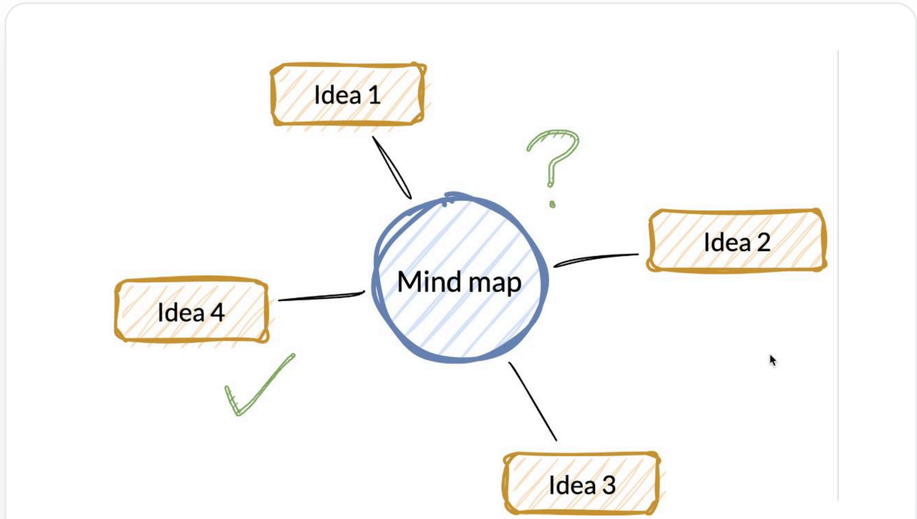
This topic was inspired by the Canadian-American architect and designer, Frank Gehry, and his drawings. His initial sketches have resulted in some of the most unconventional and spectacular buildings across the globe.

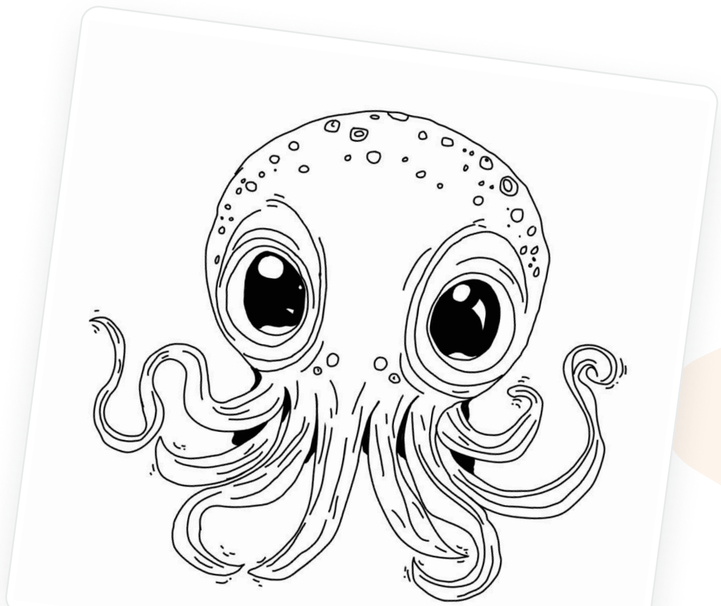
In much the same way, great ideas don't just appear out of thin air. They usually start out as rough ideas that are refined over time into a polished gem.

Some great draw.io features that can help you get your ideas down on a blank canvas, to then refine, are:

The **Freehand tool:** Allows you to draw freehand across the canvas, for example shapes and images, or to write and annotate. Get creative - there's no limit to what you can create!

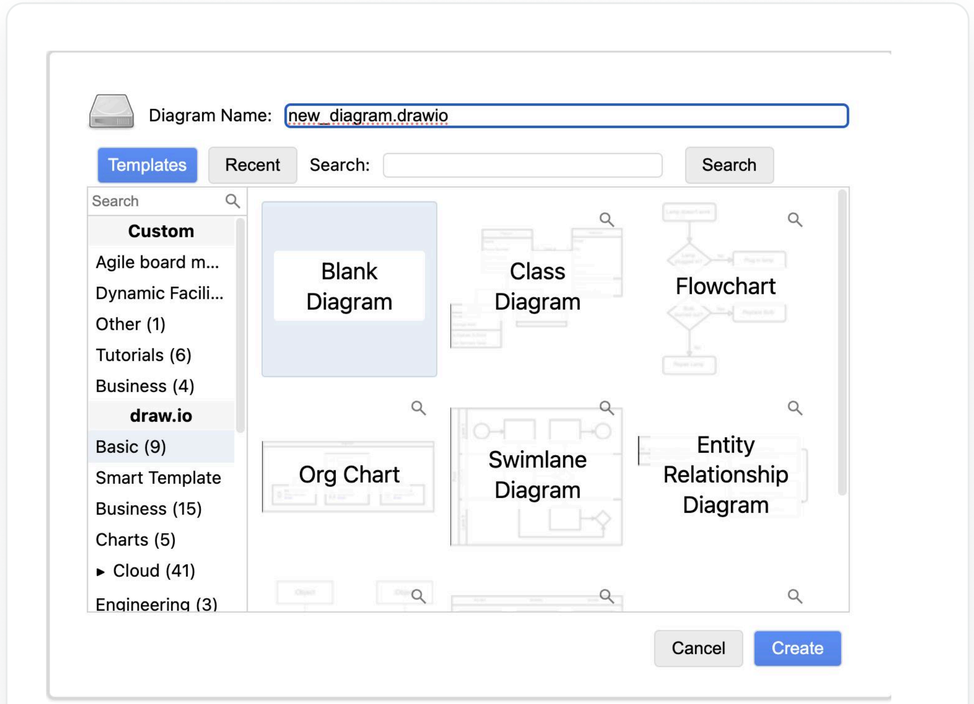
Sketch mode: This style can be applied to shapes and connectors, and can be used to catch the eye, or to highlight that your ideas might still be in a rough draft format.





From Draft to Done: Refine your ideas with draw.io

draw.io Templates: Our standard templates can help inspire you and serve as a foundation for you to customize ERDs, UML, and BPMN diagrams - with up-to-date shape libraries for these diagram types, and more!



Our **Smart Templates** allow you to generate diagrams using AI - simply type in your parameters, and then click “Generate”.

Real-time collaboration: Gathering your teammates around a physical or virtual table is the perfect way to discuss and refine your ideas. Shared cursors allow you to see changes in real time, and draw.io’s Revision History ensures that you can always revert to a previous diagram version if any unwanted changes are made.

To find out more, see:

- Blogpost: ***From Draft to Done: Refine your ideas with draw.io***
- YouTube video: ***How to sketch & refine your process in draw.io***

Sneak peek: bonus content!

Want to find out more and set up your teams for success? Look no further! The following YouTube videos provide additional information to help draw.io users in Confluence create interactive big picture diagrams, as well as how to build a floor plan in just five minutes!

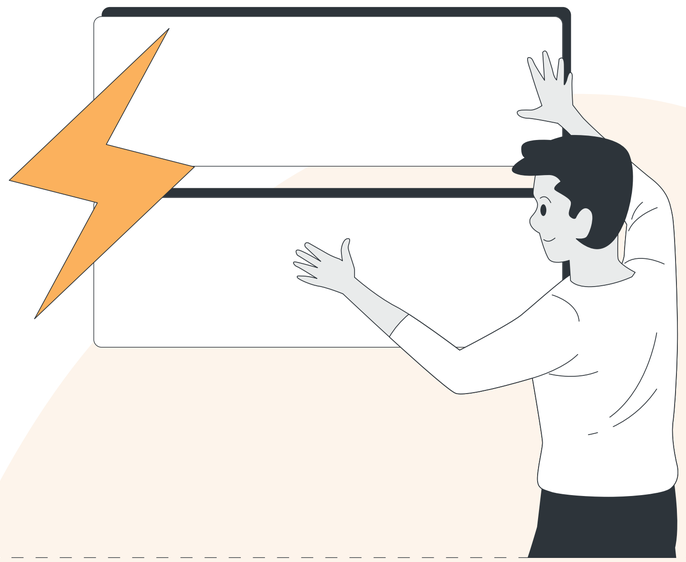
How to manage user access and permissions for draw.io

Want to take your drawio diagrams to the next level? 🚀 In this video, we'll show you three powerful features to make your diagrams more interactive and efficient!

With hyperlinks, you can navigate seamlessly between websites, documents, or different parts of your diagram. Layers help you organize complex diagrams by showing or hiding elements with ease. And with tooltips, you can add helpful pop-ups for extra info at a glance.

Build a floor plan in 5 minutes with draw.io

Want to design a professional-looking floor plan quickly and easily? In this video, we'll show you how to create a stunning floor plan with drawio in just 5 minutes! 🕒💡 Whether you're mapping out a home renovation, planning office space, or just having fun designing, draw.io makes it effortless!



Build your diagrams fast!

draw.io: with you every step of the way

We hope our Team ‘25 Campaign inspires and facilitates you and your team to build something truly unique. Whether you’re starting a new dream project, right in the thick of it all, or approaching the end, draw.io is with you every step of the way. Our resources should help guide you at any stage of the project, for example:

1. **Beginning:** Setting up a swimlane diagram to outline team roles and responsibilities; refining initial ideas through team collaboration and whiteboarding.
2. **Middle:** Creating Jira tickets containing draw.io diagrams to show team members and stakeholders the big picture during a Sprint.
3. **End:** Running a Sprint Retro to gather key insights as a team to take forward into the next big project.

If you are interested in seeing what draw.io can do for you and your teams, you can **start a free 30-day trial (for teams of any size), or try it for free for up to 10 users**.

To find out more about draw.io and stay up-to-date with the latest news, **access our linktr.ee** and give us a follow on social media.

