

# Conditional validation rules and date fields



In this tutorial you will learn how to use advanced techniques when defining validation rules.

**The approach and techniques shown are valid for all type of fields**, not only dates as in the tutorial.



If you are new to ConfiForms, please take a few minutes to read the [Basic concepts](#) Guide, or go through the video tutorial on that page. 😊

Quite often, when having fields to keep 2 dates, you need to have some kind of a relationship between these fields.

Like, ensuring that "End Date" field is after the "Start Date" field, for example.

This validation is possible to automate in ConfiForms by using the "ConfiForms Field Definition Rules" macro and using it's "Action" selected to "Validation Rule"



If you need to have 2 dates together consider using "Date Interval" field type in ConfiForms. Very useful when used in ConfiForms CalendarView

Let's start with a simple form.

Just 2 fields, both of time date

```
CONFIF: ConfiForms Form | formName = formWithDates
├── CONFIF: ConfiForms Field Definition | fieldName = startDate | fie...
├── CONFIF: ConfiForms Field Definition | fieldName = endDate | field...
└── CONFIF: ConfiForms Registration Control
```

The configuration for fields is straightforward:

## Edit 'ConfiForms Field Definition' Macro

Field for ConfiForms dynamic forms

[Documentation](#)

Field name \*


Must be unique within the form defined and alphanumeric

Field label \*

☐ Required \*

Field type

Field description (optional)

 Preview

[Select macro](#)

Save

Cancel

Same for "endDate"

So the form looks like this on the page:

## Registration

Start Date



End Date



+

Save

Close

It has no validations so far... and we gonna add one:

CONFIF ConfiForms Form | formName = formWithDates

CONFIF ConfiForms Field Definition | fieldName = startDate | fie...

CONFIF ConfiForms Field Definition | fieldName = endDate | field...

CONFIF ConfiForms Registration Control

{ def

Macro suggestions

CONFIF ConfiForms Field Definition

CONFIF ConfiForms Field Definition Rules

Open macro browser

The important bits are in the screenshot below:

Edit 'ConfiForms Field Definition Rules' Macro

endDate

Name of the field you want to track/validate

Condition

endDate:<[entry.startDate]

Action will be executed when condition is met. Same syntax as in filters The scope is current entry/record

Action \*

Validation rule

Action to perform

Message to show when validation fails

Holdon!

Validation rule

.

Preview

Select macro

Save Cancel

Explanations:

- we set up this rule to execute on the "endDate" field
- the condition is set to be dynamic, meaning that it will get the value for "startDate" field from the current record and will compare it with the value of "endDate"
- Message is set to be "Hold on!"

- And the most important bit here is to add a validation rule when condition is met, and that is "." which will match anything.
- This means that when the condition is met, and endDate is before the startDate then run the validation rule which will match ANYTHING (as . in regular expressions matches anything). The message will be shown. When condition is not met the validation rule is not executed... and the message will not be shown (the record will be valid)

That's it. It is true that it has a small trick, but here is the hint:



Define a condition that when met will mean the data is not correct and add a validation rule to match everything (using dot "."), without brackets and quotes) to fire the match and show the message to user

Storage format (configuration) for the whole solution:

```
<ac:structured-macro ac:macro-id="cd6b5bbb-c91c-4cab-aa6a-b7c903e1246e" ac:name="confiform" ac:schema-version="1">
  <ac:parameter ac:name="formName">formWithDates</ac:parameter>
  <ac:rich-text-body>
    <p>
      <ac:structured-macro ac:macro-id="2cd071cd-0ac7-4152-854b-f3b6610cbc31" ac:name="confiform-field-definition" ac:schema-version="1">
        <ac:parameter ac:name="fieldName">startDate</ac:parameter>
        <ac:parameter ac:name="fieldLabel">Start Date</ac:parameter>
        <ac:parameter ac:name="type">date</ac:parameter>
      </ac:structured-macro>
    </p>
    <p>
      <ac:structured-macro ac:macro-id="03a9a452-574f-4e67-9f98-7e71dc5bcd8b" ac:name="confiform-field-definition" ac:schema-version="1">
        <ac:parameter ac:name="fieldName">endDate</ac:parameter>
        <ac:parameter ac:name="fieldLabel">End Date</ac:parameter>
        <ac:parameter ac:name="type">date</ac:parameter>
      </ac:structured-macro>
      <ac:structured-macro ac:macro-id="004f84b4-a0af-44c6-8793-c7bb06bdd492" ac:name="confiform-entry-register" ac:schema-version="1">
        <ac:parameter ac:name="atlassian-macro-output-type">INLINE</ac:parameter>
        <ac:rich-text-body>
          <p> </p>
        </ac:rich-text-body>
      </ac:structured-macro>
      <ac:structured-macro ac:macro-id="d506bcd8-ab88-4845-81b9-7dda48fd7247" ac:name="confiform-field-definition-rules" ac:schema-version="1">
        <ac:parameter ac:name="condition">endDate:&lt;[entry.startDate]</ac:parameter>
        <ac:parameter ac:name="fieldName">Hold on! End date is expected to be AFTER the start date</ac:parameter>
        <ac:parameter ac:name="values">.</ac:parameter>
        <ac:parameter ac:name="action">Validation rule</ac:parameter>
        <ac:parameter ac:name="actionFieldName">endDate</ac:parameter>
      </ac:structured-macro>
    </p>
  </ac:rich-text-body>
</ac:structured-macro>
```