

Oracle Data Types Notes

1. **Numeric Data Types** :-Used to store numbers, including integers and floating-point values.

Data Type	Description	Example
NUMBER(p)	Stores numbers up to p digits	NUMBER(8) =99999999
NUMBER(p, s)	Stores numbers with precision p (total number of digits) and scale s (number of digits after the decimal point)	NUMBER(8,2) =999999.99
NUMBER(2,2)	Stores decimal values	NUMBER(2,2) =0.99

2. **Character Data Types** :- Used to store text or character data.

Data Type	Description	Example
VARCHAR2(n)	length character data. VARCHAR2 is widely used in Oracle. It can store up to 4000 bytes . It is used when data length varies.	Up to n bytes, e.g., VARCHAR2(50) stores up to 50 characters
CHAR(n)	Fixed-length character data.	Always stores n characters, padding with spaces if needed.

3. **Date Data Types** :- Used to store date and time information.

Data Type	Description	Example
Date	Stores date and time (up to seconds precision)	Format depends on the NLS_DATE_FORMAT setting but commonly used format is DD-MON-YY. = 09-MAR-22

4. **Oracle has many other data types**

Data Type	Description	Example
TIMESTAMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stores date and time with fractional seconds. • More precise than DATE. 	2025-09-15 14:30:45.123456.
CLOB (Character Large Object)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used to store large amounts of text. • Can store up to 4 GB of character data. 	Useful for documents, articles, etc.
BLOB (Binary Large Object)	Stores large binary data. Can store up to 4 GB. Used for multimedia or file storage.	images, videos, and files.
BFILE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stores large binary files outside the database. • File resides in the operating system and is accessed via a pointer. • Used for very large files not needed within the database structure. 	Link large files outside DB
RAW / LONG RAW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stores binary or byte data up to a certain size. • Used when working with unstructured data or encrypted information. 	Stores hexadecimal data.
XMLType	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stores XML data efficiently. • Supports querying, indexing, and validating XML documents within Oracle. 	Structured data storage
ROWID / UROWID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROWID stores the unique physical 	

	<p>address of a row in the database.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UROWID is for logical addresses, useful for indexing and performance optimization. 	Returns physical location of each row for faster access.
--	---	--

Additional Oracle Notes:-

- Choose the appropriate data type based on the nature of the data and required precision.
- Avoid using larger data types if not needed to save storage and improve performance.