# Problems/Suggestions on Database Structure

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| **categories** | |
| 1. | The data type for the “active” field should not be “bigint”. The intent of the “active” field is to hold a true/false value, therefore the data type should either be a “bool” or “tinyint(1)”. |
| 2. | The entries for the “parent\_id” field should be “null” if the category does not belong to a parent category, instead of referencing a non-existent id such as “0”. |
| 3. | The “name” field should be not be “nullable”. A category should at least have a name. |
| 4. | The “active” field name can possibly be changed to “is\_active” to further reflect that the field is supposed to be a boolean data type. |

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| **category\_product** | |
| 1. | The data type for the “active” field should not be “int”. The intent of the “active” field is to hold a true/false value, therefore the data type should either be a “bool” or “tinyint(1)”. |
| 2. | The default value for the “active” field should not be “null”, and the field itself should not be “nullable”. The default value should be either be “1” or “0” depending on the business case. |
| 3. | The “category\_id” and “product\_id” should not be “nullable”. If either one of those is missing from the entry, it should not even be entered in the first place. |
| 4. | The “active” field name can possibly be changed to “is\_active” to further reflect that the field is supposed to be a boolean data type. |

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| **products** | |
| 1. | The data type for the “active” field should not be “int”. The intent of the “active” field is to hold a true/false value, therefore the data type should either be a “bool” or “tinyint(1)”. |
| 2. | The default value for the “active” field should not be “null”. The default value should be either be “1” or “0” depending on the business case. |
| 3. | The “name” and “price” fields should not be “nullable”. A product should at least have a name and a price. If the price is undecided, it can be left as $0.00 and the “active” field set to “0”. |
| 4. | The “active” field name can possibly be changed to “is\_active” to further reflect that the field is supposed to be a boolean data type. |