

Salesforce Certified Admin and App Builder

Lesson 3—Field Types



What You'll Learn

- Various field types
- Creating formula fields
- Best practices for roll-up summary fields
- Using encrypted fields
- Different text fields



Modifying Standard Fields



Remember the following points when modifying standard fields:

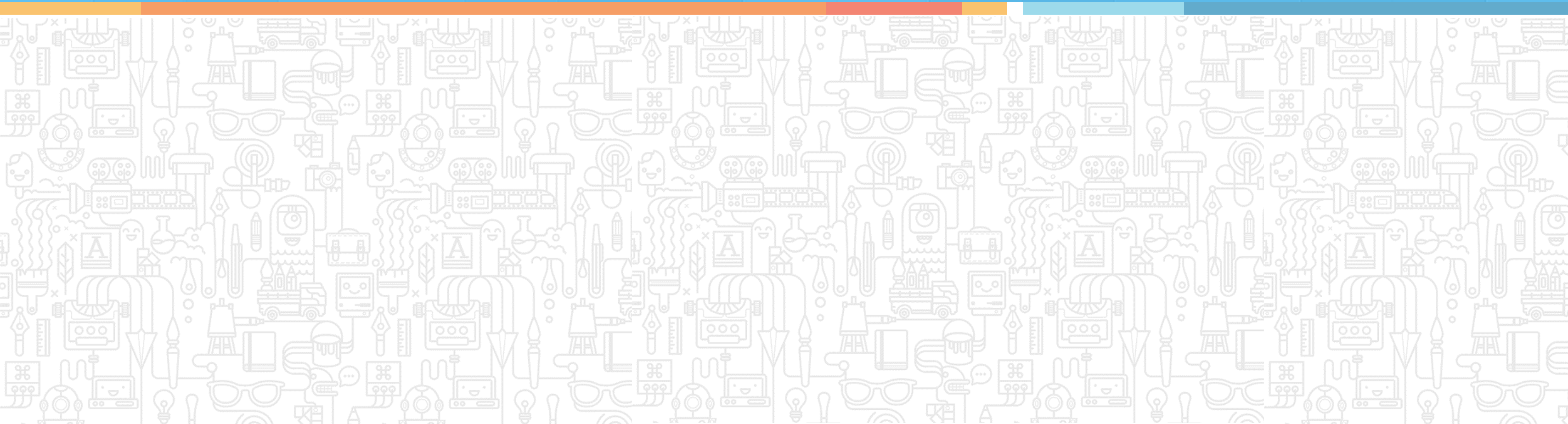
- Standard fields are default and come out of the box with Salesforce.
- You cannot modify all standard fields.
- You can rename standard field labels.
- You can configure drop-down menus.

Field Definition Edit

SaveCancel

Field Information	
Field Label	Account Owner
Field Name	Owner

Creating Auto-Number Fields



Keep in mind the following points about auto-number fields:

- These fields are perfect for automatically assigning a number to records.
- Account number or Customer number is the most common use case.
- These fields can be used as a unique identifier for integrating with outside systems.

Field Label	<input type="text" value="Account Number"/>	i
Display Format	<input type="text" value="A-{000}"/>	Example: A-{0000}
Starting Number	<input type="text" value="101"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Generate Auto Number for existing records	
Field Name	<input type="text" value="Account_Number"/>	i

Creating Formula Fields



Remember the following about formula fields:

- Formula fields are calculated whenever the page and record load.
- Formula fields can perform basic operations, including add, subtract, multiply, and divide.
- Formula field values cannot be edited, they can only be calculated.
- Formula fields can be used to bring information from related records using cross-object formulas.

Example: [More Examples ...](#)

Sample Formula (Date) =

Creating Roll-Up Summary Fields



Keep the following points in mind when creating roll-up summary fields:

- They allow you to summarize numeric values from child records.
- They are useful for counting number of child records, dollar amounts, or percentages for sales summaries.
- They are not compatible with any other field type.
- Roll-up summary fields must be the master in a master-detail relationship.

Roll-Up Summary Options	
Data Type	Roll-Up Summary
Summarized Object	<u>Opportunity</u>
Filter Criteria	(Won EQUALS False) AND (Stage EQUALS Closed Lost)

Creating Lookup and Master Detail Fields



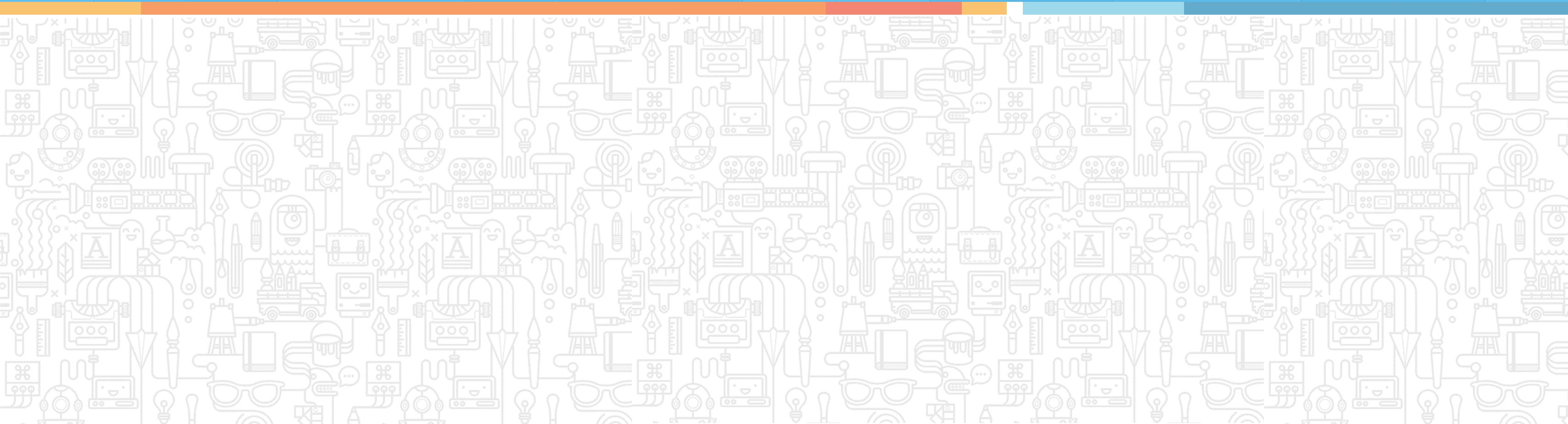
Keep in mind the following points:

- Master-Detail fields create a required relationship between parent and child records.
- Master-Detail fields allow the creation of roll-up summary fields on records.
- Lookup fields allow a basic relationship association.
- Cross-object formulas can take advantage of lookup fields.

Master-Detail Options

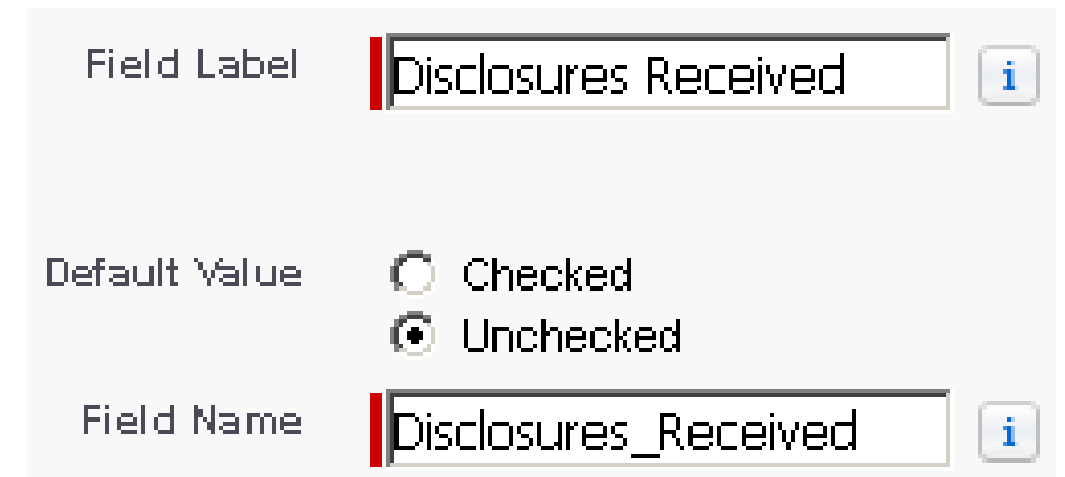
Related To	<u>Project</u>	Child Relationship Name	Project_Tasks
Related List Label	Project Tasks		
Sharing Setting	Read/Write: Allows users with at least Read/Write access to the Master record to create, edit, or delete related Detail records.		

Creating Checkbox Fields



Keep the following points in mind when creating checkbox fields:

- It is a basic confirmation field.
- It can be used to trigger workflow rules or create basic reporting criteria.
- It shows as true or false on exports.



The screenshot shows a configuration interface for a checkbox field. It consists of three rows:

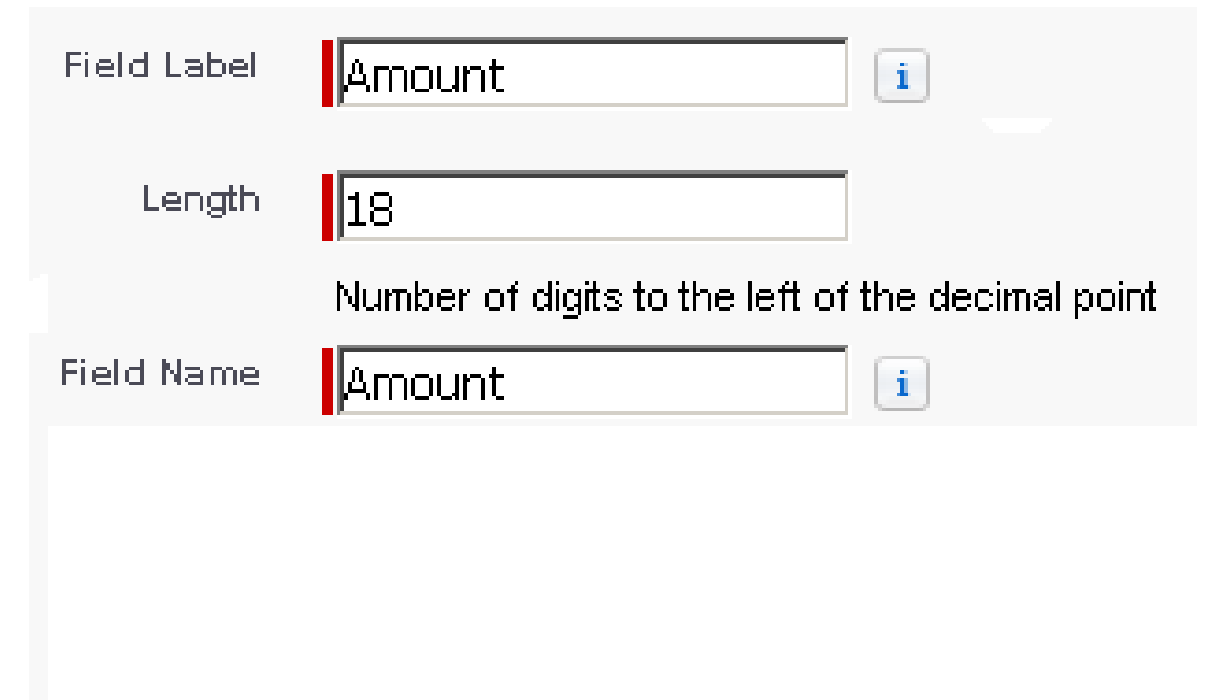
- Field Label:** A text input field containing "Disclosures Received" with a blue information icon to its right.
- Default Value:** Two radio button options: "Checked" (unselected) and "Unchecked" (selected).
- Field Name:** A text input field containing "Disclosures_Received" with a blue information icon to its right.

Creating Currency, Number, and Percent Fields





Keep the following points in mind when creating Currency, Number, and Percent fields:

- Currency fields are perfect for money-based records, like opportunities or orders.
- Number fields are used for more general metrics, like total number of records.
- Percentages can be used to calculate commissions or other ratio-based reports.



A screenshot of a field configuration interface. It shows three rows of configuration options for a field named 'Amount'. The first row is 'Field Label' with a text input containing 'Amount' and an information icon. The second row is 'Length' with a text input containing '18' and a description 'Number of digits to the left of the decimal point'. The third row is 'Field Name' with a text input containing 'Amount' and an information icon.

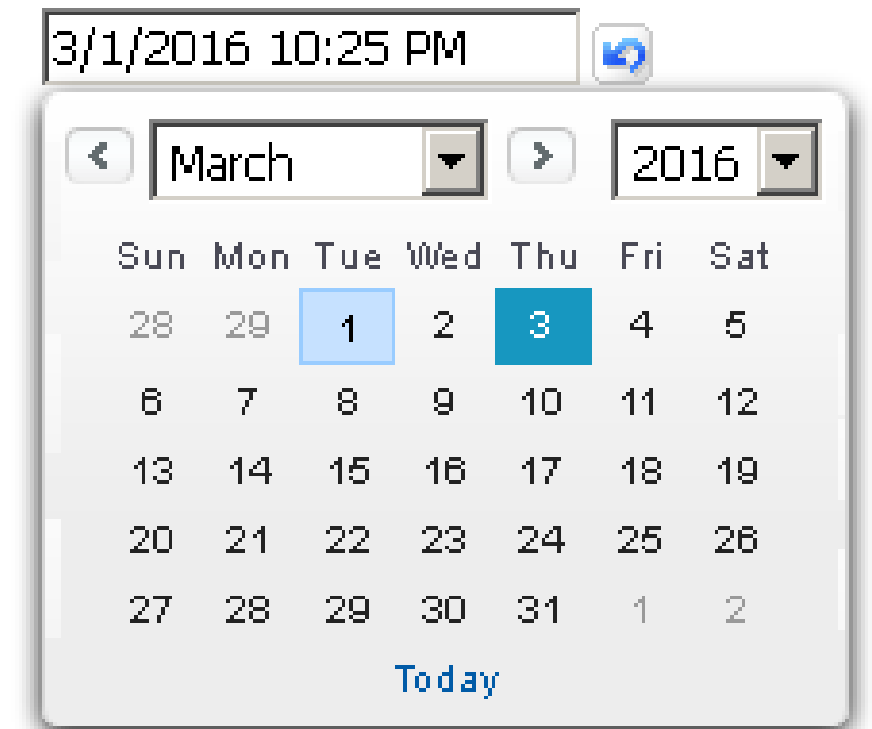
Field Label	<input type="text" value="Amount"/>	
Length	<input type="text" value="18"/>	Number of digits to the left of the decimal point
Field Name	<input type="text" value="Amount"/>	

Creating Date Field and Date and Time Field



Keep the following points in mind when creating date field and date and time fields:

- Date fields are used in date-only sensitive information, such as close dates or due dates.
- Date and time fields are used for date and time-sensitive metrics.
- Date field is the easiest to use; date and time field requires correct formatting to be saved.



Creating Phone and Email Fields



Keep the following points in mind when creating phone and email fields:

- Phone fields can accept any formatting, including extension numbers.
- The Email field is very specific: only correctly formatted emails can be saved.

Phone	(847) 370-3429
Company Email	<u>info@expeditefinancial.com</u>  Gmail]

Creating Geolocation Fields



Following are the features of Geolocation fields:

- Used in applications for mapping.
- Can be used to determine distance between two points or records.
- Must be used with correct formatting.
- Commonly used with outside integration.

Latitude	34°8'54"N 34°8'54"E
Longitude	89°6'49"S 89°6'49"W

Creating Picklist and Multi-Select Picklist Fields



Keep the following points in mind when creating picklist and multi-select picklist fields:

- Picklist fields offer an easy menu of pre-made options, such as status or type fields.
- Multi-select picklist fields are good for categorizing records with more than one option, such as product interest.
- Be careful when deleting or deactivating picklist values.

Field Label	Status
Field Name	Status
API Name	Status__c
Description	
Help Text	
Created By	Justin Davis, 3/28/2015 6:20 PM

Picklist Values			New	Reorder	Replace
Action	Values	Chart Colors			
Edit Del	Prospecting	Assigned dynamically			
Edit Del	Active	Assigned dynamically			
Edit Del	Inactive	Assigned dynamically			
Edit Del	Disqualified	Assigned dynamically			

Creating Text and Text Area Fields



Keep the following points in mind when creating text and text area fields:

- Text fields are used for typing brief notes or unstructured comments, plain text.
- Text area fields create a pop-up box for typing larger and unstructured information.

Field Information

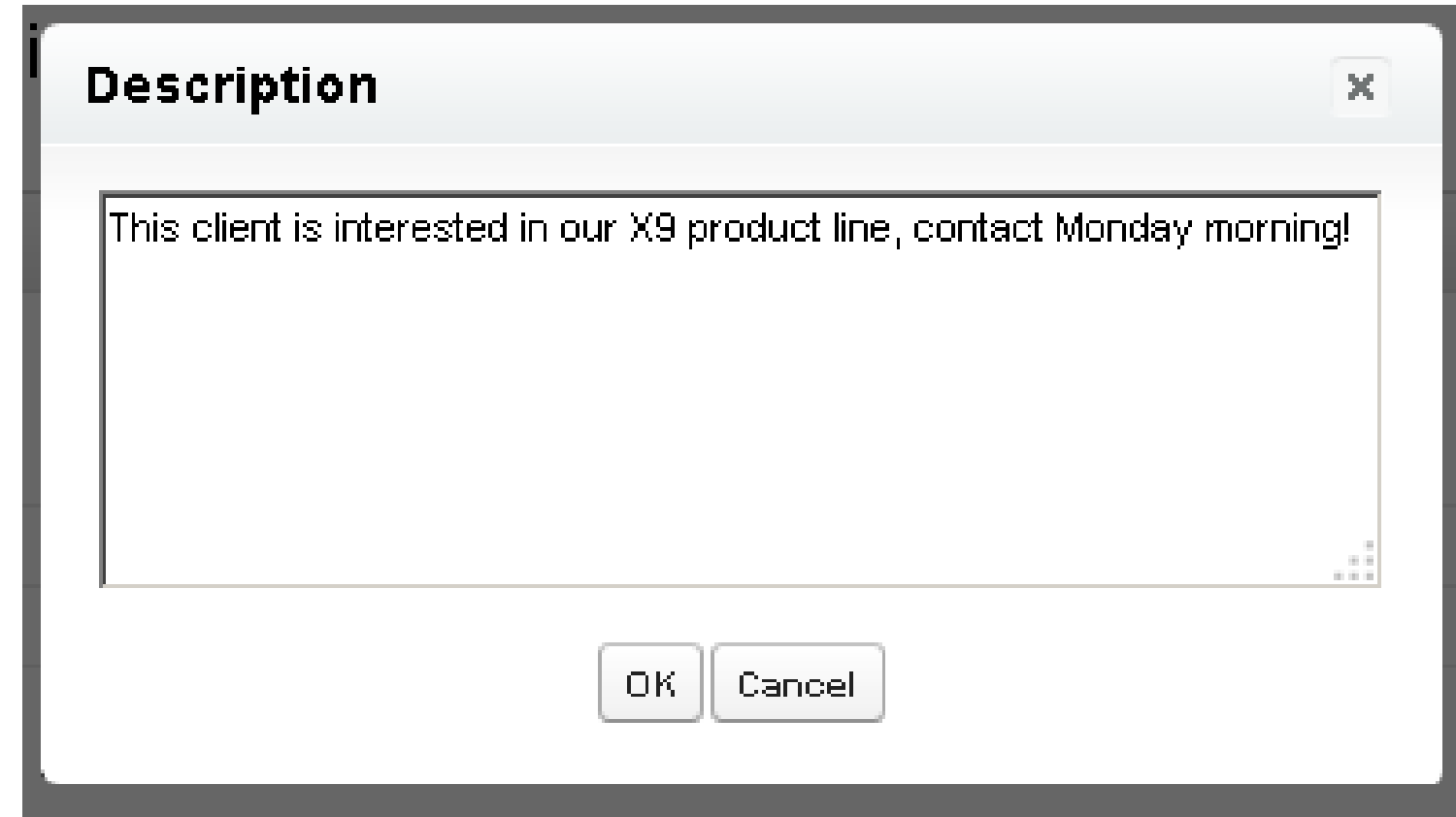
Field Label	Description
Data Type	Long Text Area(32000)
Help Text	

Creating Text Area Long and Text Area Rich Fields



Keep the following points in mind when creating text area long and text area rich fields:

- Text area long fields can contain larger amounts of information, up to 32,000 characters.
- Text area rich fields allow for basic formatting, such as italics, bold, underlining, and images.



A screenshot of a software dialog box titled "Description". The dialog box has a light gray header bar with the title "Description" and a close button (X) in the top right corner. Below the header is a large text area containing the text "This client is interested in our X9 product line, contact Monday morning!". At the bottom of the dialog box, there are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

Considerations for Field Type Change



You can convert custom fields for which no data exists. Data type change can cause data loss while changing:

- To or from type Date or Date/Time
- To Number from any other type
- To Percent from any other type
- To Currency from any other type
- From Checkbox to any other type
- From Picklist (Multi-Select) to any other type
- From Auto Number to any other type
- To Auto Number from any type except Text
- From Text to Picklist
- From Text Area (Long) to any type except Email, Phone, Text, Text Area, or URL

Field Deleting Implications



01

Before deleting a field, check if it is referenced, as you can't delete it if referenced

If that field is being updated by a background job, you can't delete and need to wait until the background job finishes

02

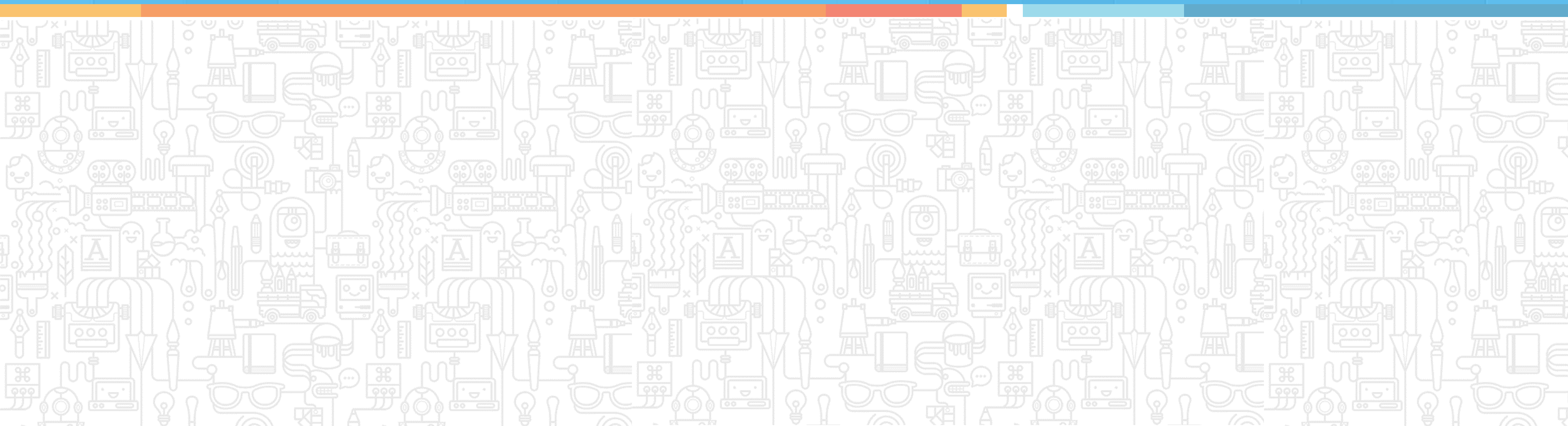
03

All the field history data is deleted when you delete a custom field

A background process regularly runs that cleans up the metadata associated with deleted custom fields

04

Creating Encrypted Fields



Keep the following points in mind when using encrypted fields:

- It is for safekeeping of social security numbers, credit card numbers, or other sensitive information.
- It is secured in the browser as well as in the Salesforce data center using 128-bit encryption.
- Only profiles enabled with the view encrypted fields permission can view the entire field.

Field Label	<input type="text" value="Social Security Number"/>	i
Field Name	<input type="text" value="Social_Security_Number"/>	i
Mask Type	<input type="text" value="Social Security Number"/>	▼
Mask Character	<input type="text" value="*"/>	▼
Example	***_**-1234	

Creating URL Fields



Keep the following points in mind when using URL fields:

- They are basic fields for storing website addresses.
- They must be used with proper formatting.
- They can be created on any object.

Website 



QUIZ 1

Which is the best field to use for single-option drop-down menus?

- a. Phone
- b. Picklist
- c. Picklist (Multi-Select)
- d. Text



QUIZ

1

Which is the best field to use for single-option drop-down menus?

- a. Phone
- b. Picklist
- c. Picklist (Multi-Select)
- d. Text



The correct answer is **b**.

Picklist fields are perfect for selecting one option from a drop-down menu.

QUIZ 2

Which field offers an additional level of security?

- a. Text
- b. Email
- c. Text (Encrypted)
- d. Checkbox



QUIZ 2

Which field offers an additional level of security?

- a. Text
- b. Email
- c. Text (Encrypted)
- d. Checkbox



The correct answer is **c**.

Encrypted fields secure the data in the database with 128-bit encryption.

QUIZ 3

Which field is the best for large note-taking?

- a. Text Area (Long)
- b. Text
- c. Text Area
- d. Text Area (Rich)



QUIZ 3

Which field is the best for large note-taking?

- a. Text Area (Long)
- b. Text
- c. Text Area
- d. Text Area (Rich)



The correct answer is **a**.

The long text area field is most appropriate for note taking purposes.

QUIZ 4

Which of the following fields is open text but requires correct formatting?

- a. Phone
- b. Currency
- c. Email
- d. Checkbox



QUIZ 4

Which of the following fields is open text but requires correct formatting?

- a. Phone
- b. Currency
- c. Email
- d. Checkbox



The correct answer is **c**.

The email field requires a perfectly-formatted email address in order to save the change.

QUIZ 5

Which field can be used to calculate percentages?

- a. Roll-Up Summary
- b. Picklist
- c. Text
- d. Formula



QUIZ 5

Which field can be used to calculate percentages?

- a. Roll-Up Summary
- b. Picklist
- c. Text
- d. Formula



The correct answer is **d**.

Formula fields can be used to calculate percentages and perform any general calculation.



Knowledge Check

Scenario

Analysis

Solution

United Containers is facing issues while calculating commissions for opportunities. Currently the Sales Managers are required to export all sales to a spreadsheet and then use Excel to perform formula calculations. Once this is completed, the Managers send it to the accounting team for payment. This entire process is prone to errors.

*Click **Analysis** to know the team's next move.*

Scenario Analysis Solution

United Containers decided to create formula fields to calculate commissions for the following reasons:

1. Percentages can be based on any currency field on Opportunities.
2. Formulas can be User-specific or utilize any other criteria for calculations.
3. Formulas cannot be edited by users once calculated.

*Click **Solution** to know the company's decision.*

Scenario

Analysis

Solution

The System Administrator of United Containers took the following steps:

1. A new formula was created on Opportunities called “Commissions”.
2. This formula contained the correct calculations for displaying the amount of commissions.
3. An opportunity report was created to display this new formula field.

Proceed forward to view the demo.

Key Takeaways

- Salesforce has a wide range of fields.
- Some fields such as formulas have system-generated values.
- Picklist and Multi-select picklist assist with fast data entry.
- Text fields are flexible and can be used for a wide range of scenarios.



This concludes 'Field Types.'

The next lesson is 'Salesforce Objects.'