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# SQL Syntax

## Database Tables

A database most often contains one or more tables. Each table is identified by a name (e.g. Customers or Orders). Tables contain records (rows) with data. Below is an example of a table called Persons:

P_Id	LastName	FirstName	Address	City
1	Hansen	Ola	Timoteivn 10	Sandnes
2	Svendson	Tove	Borgvn 23	Sandnes
3	Pettersen	Kari	Storgt 20	Stavanger

The table above contains three records (one for each person) and five columns (P\_Id, LastName, FirstName, Address, and City).

## SQL Statements

Most of the actions you need to perform on a database are done with SQL statements. The following SQL statement will select all the records in the Persons table:

```
1 | SELECT LastName FROM Persons;
```



LastName
Hansen
Svendson
Pettersen

## Keep in Mind That...

SQL is not case sensitive.

## Semicolon after SQL Statements?

Some database systems require a semicolon at the end of each SQL statement. Semicolon is the standard way to separate each SQL statement in database systems that allow more than one SQL statement to be

executed in the same call to the server. The following demonstration may use MySQL database, which does not require to put a semicolon after each SQL statement, but some databases force you to use it.

## Demonstration

The following is an SQL test area from [W3Schools](http://www.w3schools.com), which uses the well-known [Northwind](http://www.w3schools.com/northwind) sample database and the tables are for read only.

### SQL Statement:

The Database includes:

```
SELECT CustomerName, City FROM Customers;
```

Restore  
Database

Edit the SQL statement and click

Run SQL »

to see the result, or

Reset »

### Result:

Click **"Run SQL"** to execute the SQL statement above.

W3Schools has created an SQL database in your browser.

The menu to the right displays the database, and will reflect any changes.

Feel free to experiment with any SQL statement.

You can restore the database at any time.

The Database includes:

### Tablenames Records

Customers 91

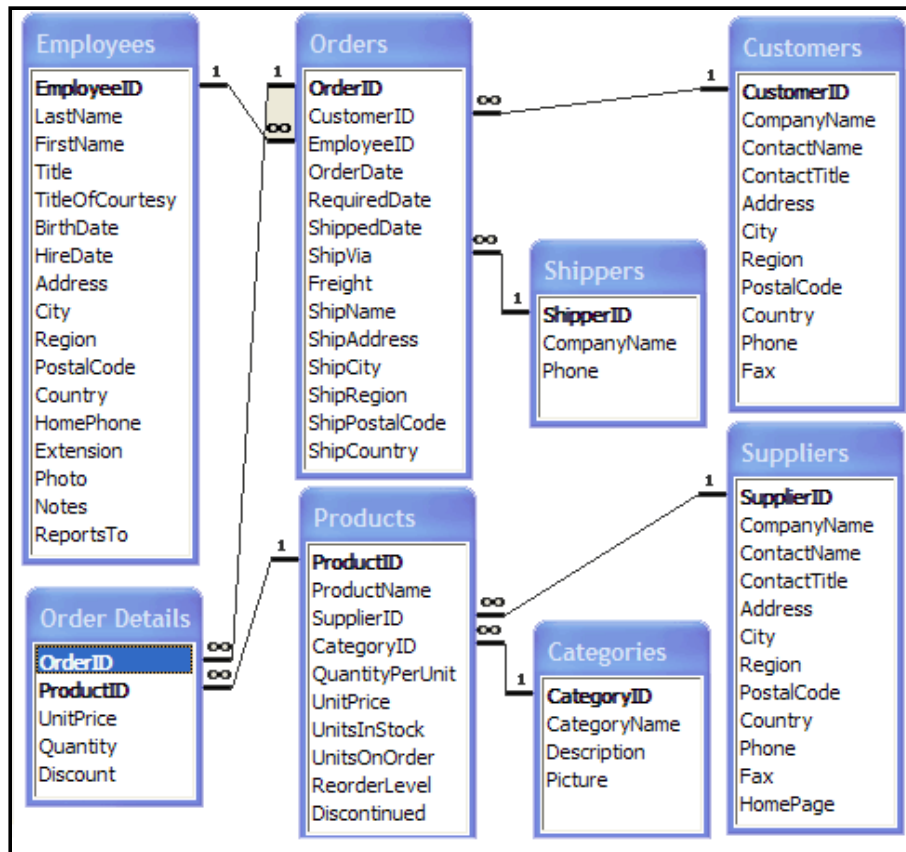
Categories 8

Employees 10

OrderDetails 518

Orders 196

Products 77



Shippers 3  
Suppliers 29

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