

# Data Warehouse Naming Conventions

This document outlines the naming conventions for schemas, tables, views, columns, and other objects within the data warehouse.

---

## 1. General Principles

- **Use snake\_case:** Lowercase letters with underscores (\_) to separate words.
  - **Language:** English only.
  - **Avoid Reserved Words:** Do not use SQL reserved words as object names.
- 

## 2. Table Naming Conventions

### 2.1 Bronze Rules

- Names must start with the source system name.
- Table names must match the original source table names.

#### Pattern:

<sourcesystem>\_<entity>

- <sourcesystem>: Name of the source system (e.g., crm, erp)
- <entity>: Exact table name from the source system

#### Example:

crm\_customer\_info → Customer information from the CRM system

---

### 2.2 Silver Rules

- Follow the same conventions as Bronze tables.
- Names start with the source system and match the original table names.

#### Pattern:

<sourcesystem>\_<entity>

### Example:

crm\_customer\_info → Customer information from the CRM system

---

## 2.3 Gold Rules

- Use meaningful, business-aligned names.
- Start with a category prefix.

### Pattern:

<category>\_<entity>

- <category>: Table role (e.g., dim for dimension, fact for fact table)
- <entity>: Business-aligned descriptive name

### Examples:

- dim\_customers → Dimension table for customer data
- fact\_sales → Fact table containing sales transactions

## Glossary of Category Patterns

Pattern	Meaning	Example(s)
dim_	Dimension table	dim_customer, dim_product
fact_	Fact table	fact_sales
report_	Report table	report_customers, report_sales_monthly

---

## 3. Column Naming Conventions

### 3.1 Surrogate Keys

- All primary keys in dimension tables must use the \_key suffix.

### Pattern:

<table\_name>\_key

### Example:

customer\_key → Surrogate key in dim\_customers table

---

### 3.2 Technical Columns

- All technical/system columns must start with the prefix `dwh_`.

**Pattern:**

`dwh_<column_name>`

**Example:**

`dwh_load_date` → Stores the date when the record was loaded

---

## 4. Stored Procedure Naming Conventions

- All stored procedures for loading data must follow the pattern:

**Pattern:**

`load_<layer>`

- `<layer>`: Represents the data warehouse layer (bronze, silver, gold)

**Examples:**

- `load_bronze` → Loads data into the Bronze layer
- `load_silver` → Loads data into Silver layer