

Introducing Data Modeling

Lab 01 | Lab Setup

Estimated time to complete this lab is 10 minutes

Overview

In this lab, you will be collecting or installing applications in preparation for working on future labs.

This document is provided "as-is". Information and views expressed in this document, including URL and other Internet Web site references, may change without notice. This document does not provide you with any legal rights to any intellectual property in any Microsoft product. You may copy and use this document for your internal, reference purposes. © 2017 Microsoft. All rights reserved.

Getting Started

Labs in this course may be completed using just hand written or drawn models. However, you may want to use desktop applications or specialized drawing tools to make modifying lab results easier.

If you choose to hand-draw or write to complete any of the labs, we recommend graph paper and a pencil to help you with laying out diagram objects and making corrections and enhancements.

Labs

For Lab 2 – Normalizing Data, you'll be making lists of entities and attributes. No diagramming will be required. You can list the entities and attributes on paper or use a spreadsheet to help you organize your lists, as in *Exhibit 1 - Entity Attribute List* below.

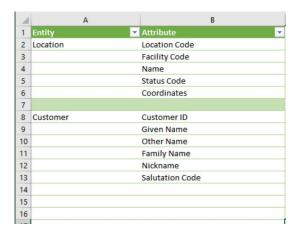


Exhibit 1 - Entity Attribute List

For Lab 03 – Designing Logical Data Models and Lab 04 – Designing Physical Data Models, you will be producing an Entity Relationship Diagrams. You may hand-draw these diagrams, if that works best for you.

An easier option may be to continue attributing the entities in a spreadsheet, then print and cut out the entities, apply them to paper, then draw the relationships between them. Be sure to leave some rows in your entities for adding foreign keys or new attributes you discover as you do this exercise. See *Exhibit 2 - Entity and Attribute List with Datatypes, Keys and NULLs* for an example.

As you begin Lab 04 - Designing Physical Models, you can copy your Lab 03 Designing Logical Data Models worksheet as a start for your Physical Data Model tasks.

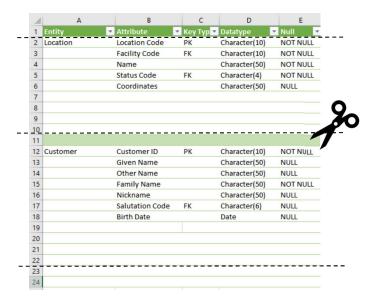


Exhibit 2 - Entity and Attribute List with Datatypes, Keys and NULLs

Optional Setup

If you have experience using data modeling or database design tools, you may want to install trial or community editions of specialized applications. Support for these tools is not provided as part of this course; however, you can find more information about getting started with third-party data modeling tools at www.datamodel.com/gettingstarted.