

- 1) **Superkey (Key)** is a combination of one or more columns that is used to identify rows in a relation.
- 2) **Candidate key** is a key that determines all of the other columns in a relation (select the shortest combination key from superkey).
- 3) **Primary key** is a candidate key selected as the primary means of identifying rows in a relation.
 - **Surrogate key** is an artificial column added to a relation to serve as a primary key.
- 4) **Alternative Key** is a candidate key not selected as the primary means of identifying rows in a relation.
- 5) **Composite key** is a key that consists of two or more columns.
- 6) **Foreign key** is the primary key of one relation that is placed in another relation to form a link between the relations.
- 7) **Secondary key** is not a mandatory key, use for data retrieval purposes (other keys exclude primary key and foreign key from the relation).

Rental

RenterNo	OwnerNo	StartDate	EndDate	Rent
R0001	O0001	01/01/2010	31/12/2010	800.00
R0001	O0001	01/01/2011	31/12/2011	850.00
R0001	O0002	01/01/2012	31/12/2012	900.00
R0001	O0001	01/01/2013	31/12/2013	1000.00
R0002	O0002	01/01/2010	31/12/2010	900.00
R0002	O0001	01/01/2012	31/12/2012	950.00

Superkeys (Unique)

Candidate Keys (Shortest from superkeys)

Primary Keys (Select from candidate keys)

Alternative Keys (Extra key that not selected as primary key)

Composite Keys (> 1 attribute)

Foreign Keys (Must refer to PK in other table to get the information)

Secondary Keys (Not PK & Not FK)