Laravel 4 Flowchart
Database Seeding
For the Laravel 4 framework.

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This document is not intended to show every command available when seeding a database. This document presumes you have no knowledge of database seeding. This will presume that a database has already been set up and the database.php file has already been configured. This document presumes you already know what artisan is and are familiar with it.

Step 1:

Do you know what Database Seeding is?

No → Database seeding is a fancy term for adding information to your database tables and columns or prepopulating them with information usually for some type of testing purposes.

Yes →

Step 2:

Do you have table and columns already set up in your database?

Please see **https://github.com/scrfix/Laravel4x_FlowCharts/blob/master/artisan-migrations-laravel4.pdf**

Yes | No

Step 4:

Have you set up your class in the seed file yet? (Please note the class name must be the same as the filename ie. Class ProfileTableSeeder for filename ProfileTableSeeder.php)

Create a new file such as ProfileTableSeeder.php and save it to the app/database/seeds folder.

No →

Step 3:

Have you created a new seed file yet in the app/database/seeds directory?

Yes →

No → Set up the class file in accordance with the following: **http://four.laravel.com/docs/migrations#database-seeding**

Yes →

i. Uncomment the //$this->call('UserTableSeeder') in the DatabaseSeeder class. (UserTableSeeder can be changed to any name as long as it matches the class name.)
OR
ii. Update $this->call('UserTableSeeder'); to call your filename/classname. Example: $this->call('ProfileTableSeeder');
OR
iii. Create a new line $this->call('ProfileTableSeeder'); // This will call my class located in my seeder file created above.

Step 5:

Did you uncomment, update or copy and paste the following line in DatabaseSeeder.php? //$this->call('UserTableSeeder')

No →

Yes →

Step 6:

Did you know what a model is?

No → A model talks to the database. This is where all of your database calls should go. Please review the following documentation **http://four.laravel.com/docs/eloquent**

Yes →

Step 8: (Final Step)

Open up terminal or the command line, navigate to the installation directory and run the following command: **php artisan db:seed**. You should see Database seeded. If you see a bunch of HTML and other stuff then something was probably typed wrong. Scroll back to where the command was entered and the next line should state what the error is.
Example:
PHP Fatal error: Call to a member function unique() on a non-object in C:\wamp\www\l4beta2\app\database\seeds\DatabaseSeeder.php on line 23

Step 7:

Create a model.
Minimalistic Model Example:
Filename: Profile.php
<?php
Class Profile extends Eloquent {
 protected $guarded = array();

 public static $rules = array();
 }
Save this file in the app/model directory