To start off, what is a relational database? A relational database often shortened and known as a RDBMS, is a type of database that stores information that is accessed via data points that have references to one another. This database type is based on the “relational model”, which is an intuitive and straightforward way to represent data in tables. Each table in a relational database has its only unique ID, which is known as a key. So, what are the actual advantages and disadvantages of relational databases’?

First and foremost, a relational database is extremely easy to understand and use. They are known to have extremely easy to use commands via SQL, which is a very easy to understand and use query language. These databases are also extremely accurate with the data that is given out. They have strict definitions on where data is to be held and controlled from, which makes it so data can’t get duplicated, which would cause problems during querying. However, a relational database also has its downsides, which would pretty much reliant on its maintenance problems. Over time, these databases start to slow down, as there is a lot of information that is stored in one, with that, you will need a lot of developers maintaining a database of this type. Also, a relational database doesn’t really scale well, with more and more data coming into the database, the more it starts to slow down. They don’t have great performance once you have a lot of data within a database of this type. Finally, a large problem is data can be lost due to lack of storage. If storage devices run out of space, you need to start writing over old data.