

Morgan Baker

CMPT-308-111-15S

Superkeys Candidates, and the Primary

Keys are unique identifiers that when seen in tables, make every row in the table different. Any combination of columns that does this is called a Superkey. Superkeys can be as many or as few columns as the user likes, the only rule is that by looking at the columns of the superkey one can see that all the rows can be unique. The candidate key is the superkey that uses the least amount of columns to uniquely identify the rows. The primary key can be any one of the candidate keys, but it is preferred if the primary key is one column, like ID.