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### Check Constraints

Check constraints restrict an attribute's value or changes to a relation or numerous relations. Their purpose is to check whether the imputed value or values are following a restriction for the purposes of not disorganizing the database and not confusing the reader. The basic syntax is CHECK(condition) where some kind of restriction is inputted to complete the phrase. Check constraints are useful when the database requires a certain type of input from the user. An example would be the need for one-character inputs for gender, such as M (for male), F (for female) or O (for other, should those previous conditions not satisfy the user). This insures that the user does not input something incorrectly and adds information that compromises how correct the database is. Another example would be if the database has restricts on the information inputted itself, such as whether a year is within the time range set for the database or whether the right kind of company is inputted.

On the other hand, check constraints are not useful for certain situations, especially ones that require more open-ended input. Check constraints on names would be unnecessary because not everyone's name should be the same length and cutting a name down would compromise future search of that attribute and would compromise the information itself. Another example of a bad use of check constraints is in situations where a marker or null value must be inputted when there is simply no information to be given. This value would not match with what is needed and would bog down input as it demands a value that does not exist for now.