

# OPEN STANDARDS

## A quick guide

### WHAT ARE THEY?

Open standards are guidelines for technology that anyone can use and contribute to.

They're like the rules of a game, designed so everyone plays by the same rules, making it easier for different technologies to work together.



### WHY USE THEM:



- **Compatibility:** They help different systems and tools talk to each other smoothly
- **Flexibility:** You're not locked into using products from just one company
- **Innovation:** Encourages new ideas and improvements by allowing more people to contribute
- **Cost-Effective:** Often free to use, which can save money on technology costs

### IMPORTANCE TO DATA ENGINEERS

Open standards are essential for data engineers as they ensure compatibility and adaptability of tools and systems, enabling seamless integration and evolution.

This fosters a collaborative, innovative, and cost-effective approach to data management, free from proprietary constraints.



### EXAMPLES OF OPEN STANDARDS



- Industry-specific standards (e.g., HL7 in healthcare)
- Cross-industry standards (e.g., Unicode, HTTP, TCP/IP)
- Open data standards (e.g., OData, OpenAPI)