

# Preface

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This manual provides an architectural and conceptual overview of the **Oracle database server, which is an object-relational database management system.**

The book describes how the Oracle database server functions, and it lays a conceptual foundation for much of the practical information contained in other manuals. Information in this manual applies to the Oracle database server running on all operating systems.

This preface contains these topics:

- [Audience](#)
- [Documentation Accessibility](#)
- [Related Documentation](#)
- [Conventions](#)

## Audience

*Oracle Database Concepts* is intended for technical users, primarily database administrators and database application developers, who are new to Oracle Database. Typically, the reader of this manual has had experience managing or developing applications for other relational databases.

To use this manual, you must know the following:

- Relational database concepts in general
- Concepts and terminology in [Introduction to Oracle Database](#)
- The operating system environment under which you are running Oracle

## Documentation Accessibility

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