

How to create ER diagram for existing MySQL database with MySQL Workbench - MySQL Workbench Tutorials

3-4 минуты

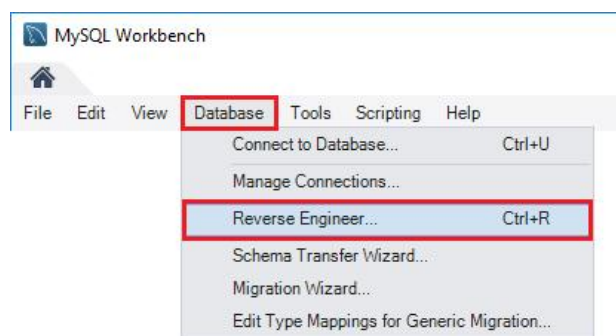
This article will show you how to create a diagram for existing MySQL or MariaDB database using **MySQL Workbench**.

Reverse engineer a database

To create a diagram from existing database you need to use **reverse engineering** functionality to create a model.

[Learn about reverse engineering and models in MySQL Workbench](#)

To reverse engineer database go to menu **Database** and choose **Reverse Engineer...** option.




Provide connection details to your database and click **Next**. Wait for the connection and click **Next** again.

A screenshot of the 'Reverse Engineer Database' wizard in MySQL Workbench. The wizard is titled 'Reverse Engineer Database' and has a sidebar on the left with options: 'Connection Options', 'Connect to DBMS', 'Select Schemas', 'Retrieve Objects', 'Select Objects', 'Reverse Engineer', and 'Results'. The main panel is titled 'Set Parameters for Connecting to a DBMS' and contains the following fields: 'Stored Connection' (a dropdown menu), 'Connection Method' (a dropdown menu set to 'Standard (TCP/IP)'), 'Hostname' (text field with '192.168.0.44'), 'Port' (text field with '4057'), 'Username' (text field with 'piotr'), and 'Password' (text field with a 'Store in Vault ...' button and a 'Clear' button). There are also tabs for 'Parameters', 'SSL', and 'Advanced'. At the bottom right, there are 'Back', 'Next', and 'Cancel' buttons.

When successfully connected wizard will show you list of available schemas on the server. Select the ones you want to reverse engineer.

A screenshot of the 'Reverse Engineer Database' wizard in MySQL Workbench, showing the 'Select Schemas to Reverse Engineer' step. The sidebar on the left has 'Connection Options' selected. The main panel is titled 'Select Schemas to Reverse Engineer'.

Connect to DBMS
Select Schemas
Retrieve Objects
Select Objects
Reverse Engineer
Results


Select the schemas below you want to include:

☐ forexmn
☐ loans
☒ sakila


Back Next Cancel

Wait for the schemas being read and continue with **Next**. On next screen you have an option to **select object types** and **filter specific objects**. Let's ignore it and import all objects. Click **Execute >**.

Reverse Engineer Database

Connection Options
Connect to DBMS
Select Schemas
Retrieve Objects
Select Objects
Reverse Engineer
Results


Select Objects to Reverse Engineer


☒ Import MySQL Table Objects
16 Total Objects, 16 Selected

sakila.actor
sakila.address
sakila.category
sakila.city
sakila.country
sakila.customer
sakila.film
sakila.film_actor
sakila.film_category
sakila.film_text
sakila.inventory
sakila.language

>
<
>>
<<
+

Hide Filter


☒ Import MySQL View Objects
7 Total Objects, 7 Selected

Show Filter

☒ Place imported objects on a diagram

Back Execute > Cancel

Wait for reverse engineering to take place and when done continue with **Next**. Final screen shows you a summary of the import. Close with **Finish**.

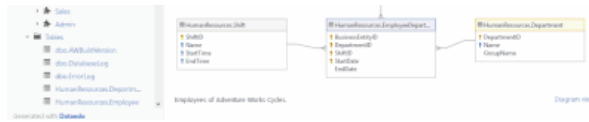
Reverse Engineer Database

Connection Options
Connect to DBMS
Select Schemas
Retrieve Objects
Select Objects

Reverse Engineering Results

Summary of Reverse Engineered Objects:

- 16 tables, 7 views, 6 routines from schema 'sakila'

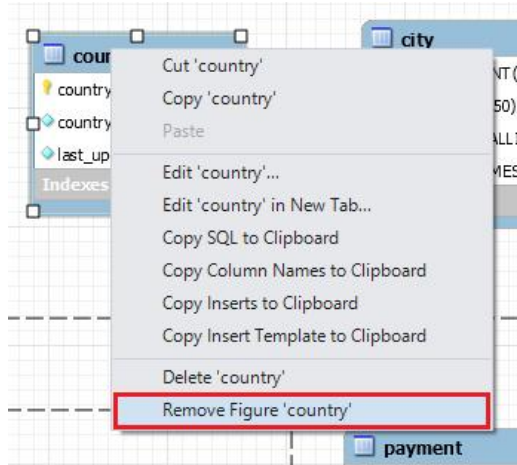


Clean out diagram

What you probably want to do right after you created a default diagram is to remove unnecessary tables and views and arrange tables to make it easier to grasp.

To remove table from diagram select it, right click and choose **Remove Figure** option.

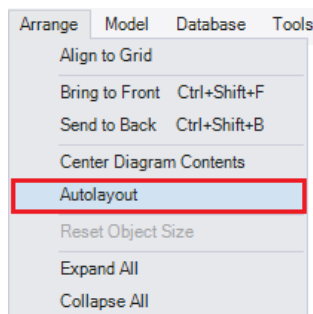
Be careful not to choose Delete option as it will remove table not only from diagram but also your model catalog. Without a warning!



Arrange tables

To arrange tables you can try **autoarrange** option, but you'll need some manual work on top of that.

To use autoarrange go to menu, select **Arrange** and **Autolayout**.



To manually arrange tables simply select them and move around when you feel they fit best. Good luck.

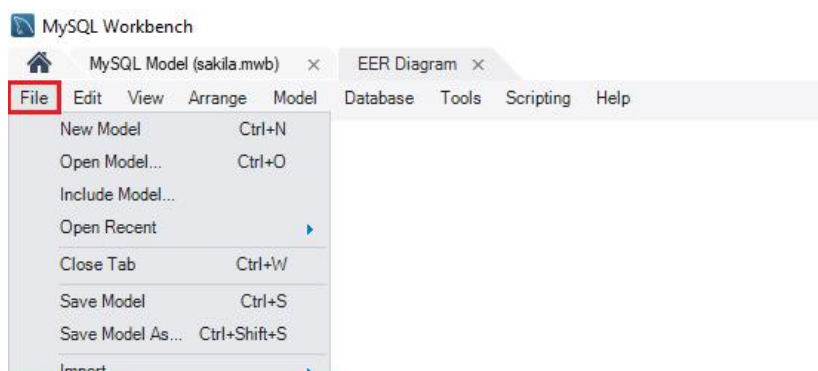
Save model

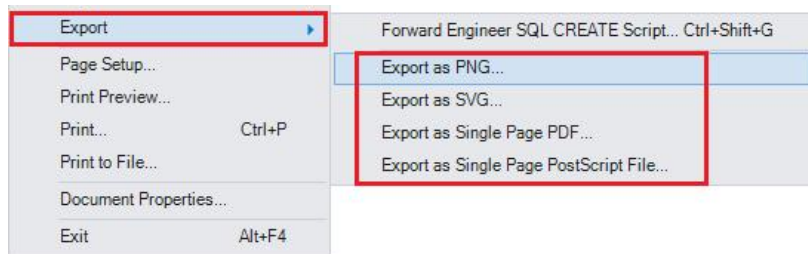
Once you have completed your diagram make sure to save it. It is saved in a MySQL Workbench model in a **.mwb** file in **Documents** folder.

Export diagram

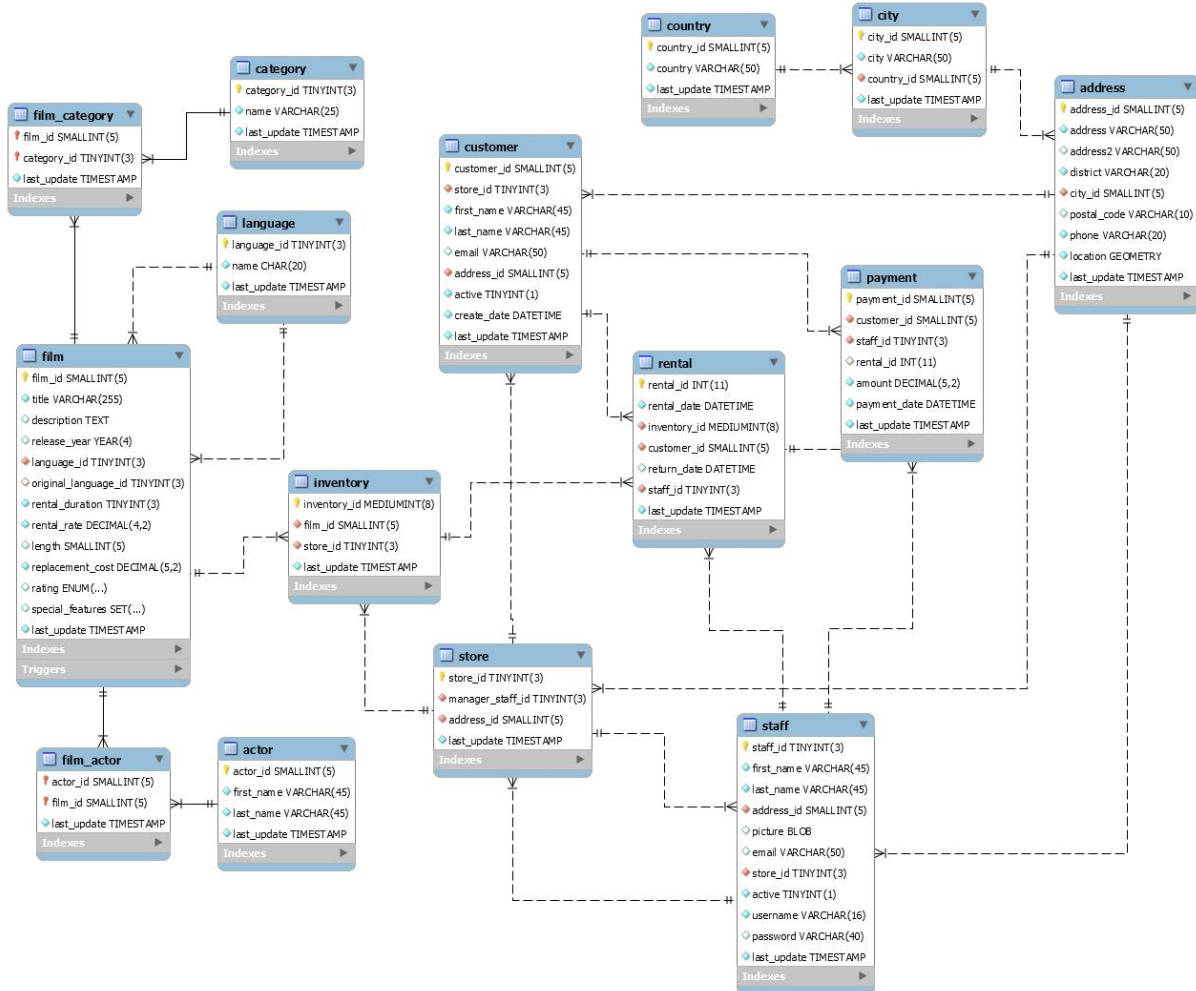
When your diagram is complete and save it you can export it to **png**, **pdf**, **ps** or **svg**.

To export diagram go to menu, select **File**, then **Export**, select one of the available formats and provide folder and filename.





Here is my diagram:

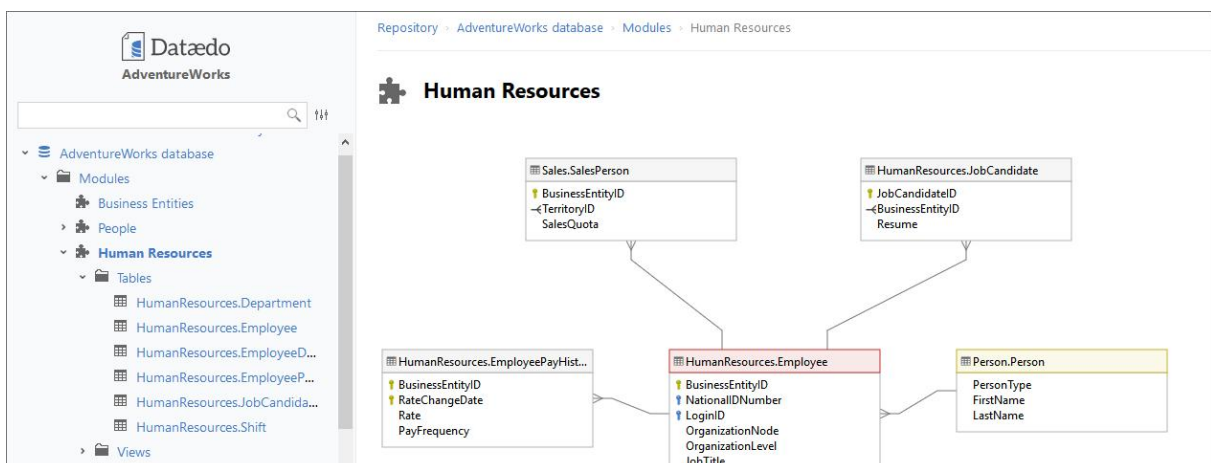


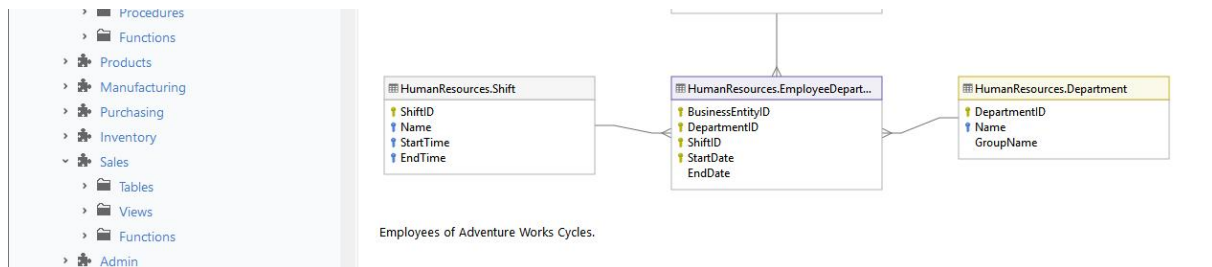
See it in other formats:

- [Sample PDF export](#)
- [Sample SVG export](#)

A better way to share diagrams: Dataedo

There is a better way to create and share diagrams for existing databases - [Dataedo](#). Here is a sample export of complete database documentation with diagrams:





[See live HTML database documentaion sample](#)

A few of the benefits:

1. Easy and convenient sharing in interactive HTML
2. Draw diagrams for databases with no FK constraints
3. Attach complete data dictionary

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