**Business Rules and Data Modeling**

Business Rules can best be described as an outline of operating procedures that would help programmers understand the functionality the customer needs. For example, if you run a small clothing store, you likely have a return policy. No refunds or exchanges after 30 days. That is a business rule. Or say you are car dealership processing credit applications. Credit score must be above 580 for auto loan. That is a business rule that likely pairs with another condition to reach the end goal of 'customer purchasing car with loan' (1).

Business rules relate to data modeling by explaining the relationship between entities. Entities would best be described as nouns that occur in your business that you want to track data for. For example, the small clothing store has items for sale, purchase transactions, return transactions, receipts, and customers. That customer likely has a card number, name, email, and other things related to them that the store would be interested in. The provided business rules help to establish a relationship between purchase date and return date that would be important to the owner to have included in the software that will require entity attributes.

Modeling the business rules as entities and relationships will help data modeling in establishing interaction points between the data. Whether that be a comparison, an if clause, or something else, we know what data is needed, to produce the desired outcome. Knowing what needs to be stored will help with making the best organizational choices (2).

**Sources**

1. <https://www.ibm.com/topics/business-rules>
2. <https://powerbi.microsoft.com/en-us/what-is-data-modeling/#:~:text=Data%20modeling%20is%20the%20process,between%20those%20bits%20of%20data>.