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# Reader Log: “Silicon Shelf”

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Phase: CS 340: Project Step 1 Final Version (Group, on Ed Discussions)

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Submittal: Submit PDF to Canvas Group Page

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## Overview

Silicon Shelf is a platform for tracking personal reading lists as well as coordinating reading with friends. A database-driven website will allow users to manage reading queues, establish book clubs, and recommend books to other users. With 10,000 monthly active users and an average yearly enqueue rate of 10 books per user, a robust relational database is needed.

## Database Outline

### Readers (Object Entity) Details of a reader (user) who may read books, queue books to be read, participate in a book club, and recommend books.

* + readerID: INT, AUTO\_INCREMENT, not NULL, PK
  + name: VARCHAR(50), not NULL
  + email: VARCHAR(50), not NULL
  + relations:
    - M:M Books through ReadingLog
    - M:M ReadingClubs through ClubMembers
    - M:M Books through ReadQueues
    - 1:M Recommendations

### Books (Object Entity) Details of a book.

* + bookID: INT, AUTO\_INCREMENT, not NULL, PK
  + title: VARCHAR(50), not NULL
  + author: VARCHAR(50), not NULL
  + year: DATE()
  + relations:
    - M:M Readers through ReadingLog
    - M:M Readers through ReadQueues
    - 1:M Recommendations

### ReadingClubs (Object Entity) Must be coordinated by one Reader, may specify a maximum roster size. Enrollment in a club’s roster serves as an interface to populate Recommendations or ReadQueues to groups of Readers.

* + clubID: INT, AUTO\_INCREMENT, not NULL, PK
  + clubName: VARCHAR(50), not NULL
  + relations:
    - M:M Readers through ClubMembers

### ReadingLogs (Transaction Entity) Records the status of a Book being read by a reader.

* + logID: INT, AUTO\_INCREMENT, not NULL, PK
  + readerID: FK(Readers.readerID), not NULL
  + bookID: FK(Books.bookID), not NULL
  + status: VARCHAR(50)
  + dateStarted: DATE()
  + dateCompleted: DATE()
  + relations:
    - 1:M Readers
    - 1:M Books

### Recommendations (Transaction Entity) Using Recommendations, a reader may see a list of suggested books by different readers.

* + recommendedBy: FK(Readers.readerID), not NULL
  + recommendedTo: FK(Readers.readerID), not NULL
  + bookID: FK(BookID), not NULL
  + recommendationAccepted: BOOL
  + relations:
    - M:1 Books
    - M:1 Readers

### ClubMembers (Composite Entity) Records membership in a club.

* + clubID: FK(ReadingClubs.clubID), not NULL
  + readerID: FK(Readers.readerID), not NULL
  + isCoordinator: BOOL
  + relations:
    - M:1 Readers
    - M:1 ReadingClubs

### ReadQueues (Composite Entity) Records books in a queue.

* + queueID: INT, not NULL, PK
  + readerID: FK(Readers.readerID), not NULL
  + bookID: FK(Books.bookID) , not NULL
  + priority: INT, default = 1
  + relations:
    - M:1 Readers
    - M:1 Books

## Entity-Relationship Diagram (ERD)

Diagram

Description automatically generated

## Peer Review Feedback

Review by Jacob Ogle:

“

Hey Nice and Josh, great idea on the database and I think this will turn into a great project.

I really think this is a well thought out system and should be pretty fun to design a web application around. I think using a database as a priority queue will be interesting to implement. Would a reader be allowed to set multiple different books with similar priorities or would the application allow certain rankings.

For suggestions, they are kind of nit-picky but they're just suggestions 😄. I would possibly bump the varchar sizes up a bit. For example, in the ReadingClubs entity it might be nice to have the varchar size set to something like (50). Same with name, email. etc. ”

Review by John Lofgren:

“

* Does the overview describe what problem is to be solved by a website with DB back end?
  + Yes. It is a website for tracking books and the features it will have directly contribute to that goal.
* Does the overview list specific facts?
  + Yes! I think it was sparse on detailing the "numbers" each feature would have, but the diagram later on does a great job of showing how the DB is going to work.
* Are at least four entities described and does each one represent a single idea to be stored a s a list?
  + Yes there are at least four and match requirements.
* Does the outline of entity details describe the purpose of each, list attribute datatypes and constraints and describe relationships between entities?
  + Yes it meets all requirements.
* Are 1:M relationships correctly formulated? Is there at least one M:M relationship? Does the ERD present a logical view of the database?
  + Yes they are.
* Is there consistency in a) naming between overview and entity/attributes b) entities plural, attributes singular c) use of capitalization for naming?
  + Yes naming conventions are standardized. Only inconsistency is email address is listed on the ERD, but nowhere else and it does not follow the camelcase used elsewhere.

Overall: The intro could probably be more descriptive of your overall plan, but it is a nitpick. I think that your ERD is great and really pulls your whole plan together. When I saw it and then went back and read your descriptions it all clicked for me. The only variable I didn't get is maxRosterSize. More from a user standpoint then a database. If its a reading club and you want it to be exclusive, then the Coordinator can approve or disapprove applicants, and if they don't care if its exclusive, then I am not sure they would care about the maxroster.“

## Actions Taken from Feedback

* Removed maxRosterSize attribute from ReadingClubs entity per John Lofgren.
* Increased VARCHAR size on all attributes from 32 to 50 per Jacob Ogle.
* Corrected email address on ERD to email for naming consistency per John Lofgren.

## Upgrades from Draft to Final

* Additional proof read, spelling correct.
* Formatted text.
* Added Table of Contents to top of draft.
* Page layout edits.
* Scaled ERD.