

What is Normalization?

✔ Simple Definition:

Normalization is the process of organizing data in a database to:

- Remove **duplicate/repeated data**
- Improve **data consistency**
- Make **inserting, updating, and deleting** data easier and error-free

✔ Step-by-Step Normalization:

We'll go up to **2NF** [First and Second Normal Form] using a simple **student-course** example.

🗪 Unnormalized Table (Bad Design – Repeating Data):

StudentID	Name	Courses
1	Milan	DBMS, OS
2	Riya	DBMS, CN

✗ Problem:

- Courses are stored as **comma-separated values** → violates First Normal Form

✔ 1 NF (First Normal Form)

Rule:👉 Each column should contain **atomic (single) values**, no commas or arrays.

✔ Converted Table (1NF):

StudentID	Name	Course
1	Milan	DBMS
1	Milan	OS
2	Riya	DBMS
2	Riya	CN

✔!! Now every column has only **one value** → 1NF achieved.

✔ 2 NF (Second Normal Form)

Rule:👉 It should be in **1NF**, and👉 **Non-key columns must depend on the full primary key**, not just part of it.

In the above table:

- StudentID + Course is the **composite primary key**.
- But Name depends **only on StudentID**, not on Course → ✗ Partial dependency

🎯 So we split the table into two:

📄 Students Table:

StudentID	Name
1	Milan
2	Riya

📄 Courses Table:

StudentID	Course
1	DBMS
1	OS
2	DBMS
2	CN

✔!! Now Name depends only on StudentID (in its own table)✔!! All non-key columns depend on the **full key** → ✔ 2 NF achieved

✔ Summary of 1NF and 2NF:

Normal Form Rule [Simple Words] **1NF** No commas or multiple values in a single column **2NF**

No partial dependency – every column depends fully on the key

Let me know when you're ready to move to **3NF**, or want a visual summary or note-style format!