

Saurabh Dua 20:47

Required ☐ Always require a value in this field in order to save a record

Unique ☐ Do not allow duplicate values

☒ Treat "ABC" and "abc" as duplicate values (case insensitive)

☐ Treat "ABC" and "abc" as different values (case sensitive)

External ID ☐ Set this field as the unique record identifier from an external system

Default Value [Show Formula Editor](#)

Use [formula syntax](#): e.g., Text in double quotes: "hello", Number: 25, Percent as decimal: 0.10  
Today() + 7

Begin with creating an ExternalID field on Account object. Let's call the text field as Ext. See snapshot below.

Step 2. Enter the details

Step 2 of 4

Previous

Next

Cancel

Field Label

Ext

Please enter the maximum length for a text field below.

Length

255

Field Name

Ext

Description

Help Text

Required

☐ Always require a value in this field in order to save a record

Unique

☒ Do not allow duplicate values
 

☐ Treat "ABC" and "abc" as duplicate values (case insensitive)
 ☐ Treat "ABC" and "abc" as different values (case sensitive)

External ID

☒ Set this field as the unique record identifier from an external system

Default Value

Show Formula Editor

Use formula syntax. Enclose text and picklist value API names in double quotes ("the\_text"). Include numbers without quotes (23). Show percentages as decimals (0.10), and express date calculations in the standard format: {Today} + 7

Previous

Next

Cancel

once done go ahead and create an account record as shown in the snapshot

Account Edit

New Account

Help

---

Account Edit

Save Save & New Cancel

Account Information

Account Owner Saurabh Dua

Rating --None--

Account Name Demo Account

Phone

Parent Account

Fax


Account Number

Website

Ext WOS

Ticker Symbol

click on REST Explorer to open the Rest explorer tool. Enter the credentials and click on login. Make sure you select the correct environment.



The screenshot shows the 'World of Salesforce Rest Explorer' web application. At the top, there's a title 'World of salesforce Rest Explorer' with an 'Edit' link. Below it, the subtitle 'WorldofSalesforce Rest Explorer' is followed by a description: 'Login with your Salesforce credentials. This Rest explorer is build on Salesforce.com Developer Edition'. The login form includes fields for 'Username:' (containing 'worldofsalesforce@blogger'), 'Password:' (masked with dots), and 'Environment:' (a dropdown menu set to 'Production'). A 'Login' button is at the bottom left.

this specifies that we want to upsert account records based on Ext\_\_c field as External Id field where the value of external ID is WOS.

Type anything in the name field and click Execute.

Rest Explorer

Session Information

Choose an HTTP method to perform on the REST API service URI below:  

GET

POST

PUT

PATCH

/services/data/v39.0/subjects/Account/Ext\_\_c/WOS

Execute

Request Body

{  
 "Name": "Demo for External-Id"  
}

Response

Check back in salesforce and you would see that the record name is changed.

**You can even use the external ID fields to fill up the lookup field.** For example, if you want to create a contact and want to link it to an account. The external system which is creating the contact using rest API does not know the Account's salesforce ID but has the external Id. In these cases, we can link the account using external ID.

In the same Rest Explorer change the method to POST and change the endpoint URL to **/services/data/v39.0/subjects/contact** and use below **JSON** in the body to create a contact record.

```
{  
  "lastName": "Demo Contact",  
  "Account": {"Ext__c": "WOS"}  
}
```

Click execute and you would see a contact record Id generated in the response. Check this contact in Salesforce and you would see that it is linked to the account whose External id field has WOS as the value.

**\*\* For Custom Lookup fields use \_\_r instead of \_\_c.**

Rest Explorer

Session Information

Choose an HTTP method to perform on the REST API service URI below:  

GET

POST

PUT

PATCH

/services/data/v39.0/subjects/contact

Execute

Request Body

{  
 "lastName": "Demo Contact",  
 "Account": {"Ext\_\_c": "WOS" }  
}

Response

{  
 "id": "0030I00001RldPqQAJ",  
 "success": true,  
 "errors": []  
}