Database Design

For a **simple e-commerce website**, the number of tables depends on the features you want to include. At a minimum, you’ll usually need **5–8 tables**. Here’s a common structure:

**1. Users / Customers Table**

* **Purpose:** Store customer information.
* **Fields:** id, name, email, password, phone, address, timestamps.

**2. Products Table**

* **Purpose:** Store product details.
* **Fields:** id, name, description, price, stock, category\_id (FK), image, timestamps.

**3. Categories Table**

* **Purpose:** Group products by category.
* **Fields:** id, name, description, timestamps.

**4. Orders Table**

* **Purpose:** Store order details.
* **Fields:** id, user\_id (FK), total\_amount, status (pending/paid/shipped), timestamps.

**5. Order\_Items Table**

* **Purpose:** Store products included in an order (many-to-many relationship).
* **Fields:** id, order\_id (FK), product\_id (FK), quantity, price.

**6. Payments Table (Optional but recommended)**

* **Purpose:** Store payment details.
* **Fields:** id, order\_id (FK), payment\_method, transaction\_id, amount, status, timestamps.

**7. Shipping Table (Optional)**

* **Purpose:** Manage shipping info.
* **Fields:** id, order\_id (FK), address, city, postal\_code, country, tracking\_number, status.

**8. Admin/Staff Table (Optional)**

* **Purpose:** For admin panel access.
* **Fields:** id, name, email, password, role.

**Minimum core:** **Users, Products, Categories, Orders, Order\_Items** (5 tables).  
**Recommended full:** **Users, Products, Categories, Orders, Order\_Items, Payments, Shipping, Admin** (7–8 tables).

Would you like me to **draw the ER diagram** for this database or **write Laravel migration files** for these tables?