

KEYS

Key is used to uniquely identify any record or row of data from the table. It is also used to establish and identify relationships between tables.

A key is also used when we want to establish relationships between the different columns and tables of a relational database. The **individual values** present in a key are commonly referred to as **key values**.

Super Key

Set of all those **keys** that help us **uniquely identify** all the rows present in a table.

All those **attributes** in a table that is **capable of identifying the other attributes** of the table in a **unique manner** are all super keys.

Candidate Key

Those **attributes** that identify **rows uniquely** in a table.

Primary Key

We **select the primary key from a candidate key**. Thus, a primary key has **similar properties** as that of the candidate keys.

A table **can consist of just one primary key**. It **can't be null**.

primary key **cannot consist of the same values** reappearing/repeating for any of its rows. All the values of a primary key **have to be different**, and there should be **no repetitions**.

Foreign Key

Foreign key to **establish relationships between two available tables**. The foreign key would **require every value present in a column/set of columns** to match the referential table's primary key. A foreign key helps us to maintain data as well as referential integrity.



