

Understanding DocTypes

A DocType is the core building block of any application based on the Frappe Framework. It describes the **Model** and the **View** of your data. It contains what fields are stored for your data, and how they behave with respect to each other

A DocType not only stores fields, but also other information about how your data behaves in the system. We call this **Meta**. Since this meta-data is also stored in a database table, it makes it easy to change meta-data on the fly without writing much code.

Key Insights:

1. **Core Building Block:** DocTypes describe the structure and behavior of your data, from fields to naming conventions.
2. **Conventions:** Frappe follows specific conventions for rapid application development. For instance, DocTypes are always singular (e.g., "Article" not "Articles"), and their corresponding table names are prefixed with "tab" (e.g., "tabArticle").
3. **Meta-Data:** DocTypes store not just fields but also meta-data about how your data operates within the system. This meta-data is dynamic, allowing changes without extensive coding.
4. **Out-of-the-Box Features:** Once a DocType is created, Frappe offers features like List View and Form View automatically, streamlining the user experience.