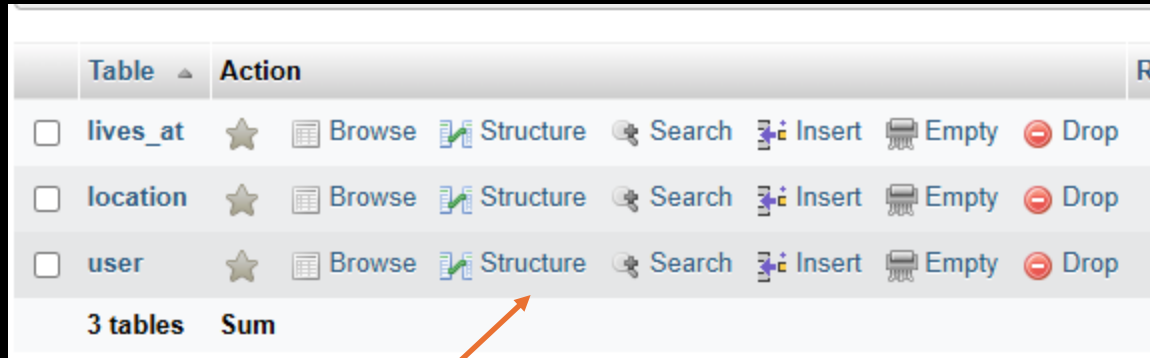# Database linking tables (relationships)

Guide 05

Important to link tables

- Important to link the data together to "enforce referential integrity"

- This means data has to exist in both tables and makes it better and more valid data and stops redundancy

Index the foreign key columns

- For each column you want to link, you HAVE to index the column

- Click "structure" on each table, with a column you want to link.

- If its already a primary key, you don't need to do this

On each column

- Check the tick box

- Click index

Access the designer

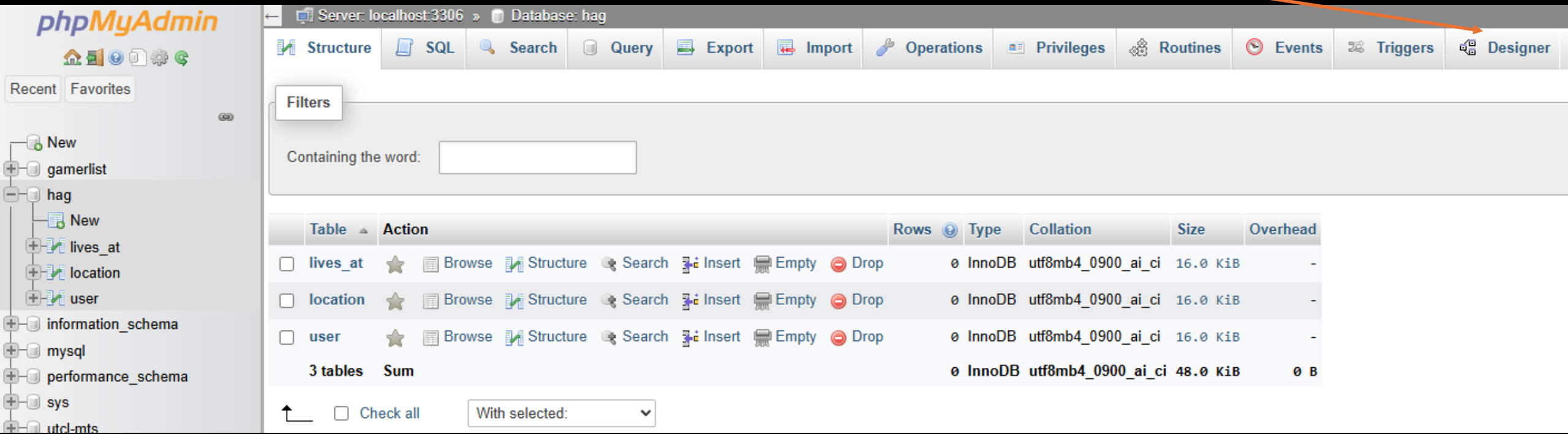- Access designer to link the tables

Establish the links

- Arrange the tables as you want

- Click "Create relationship"
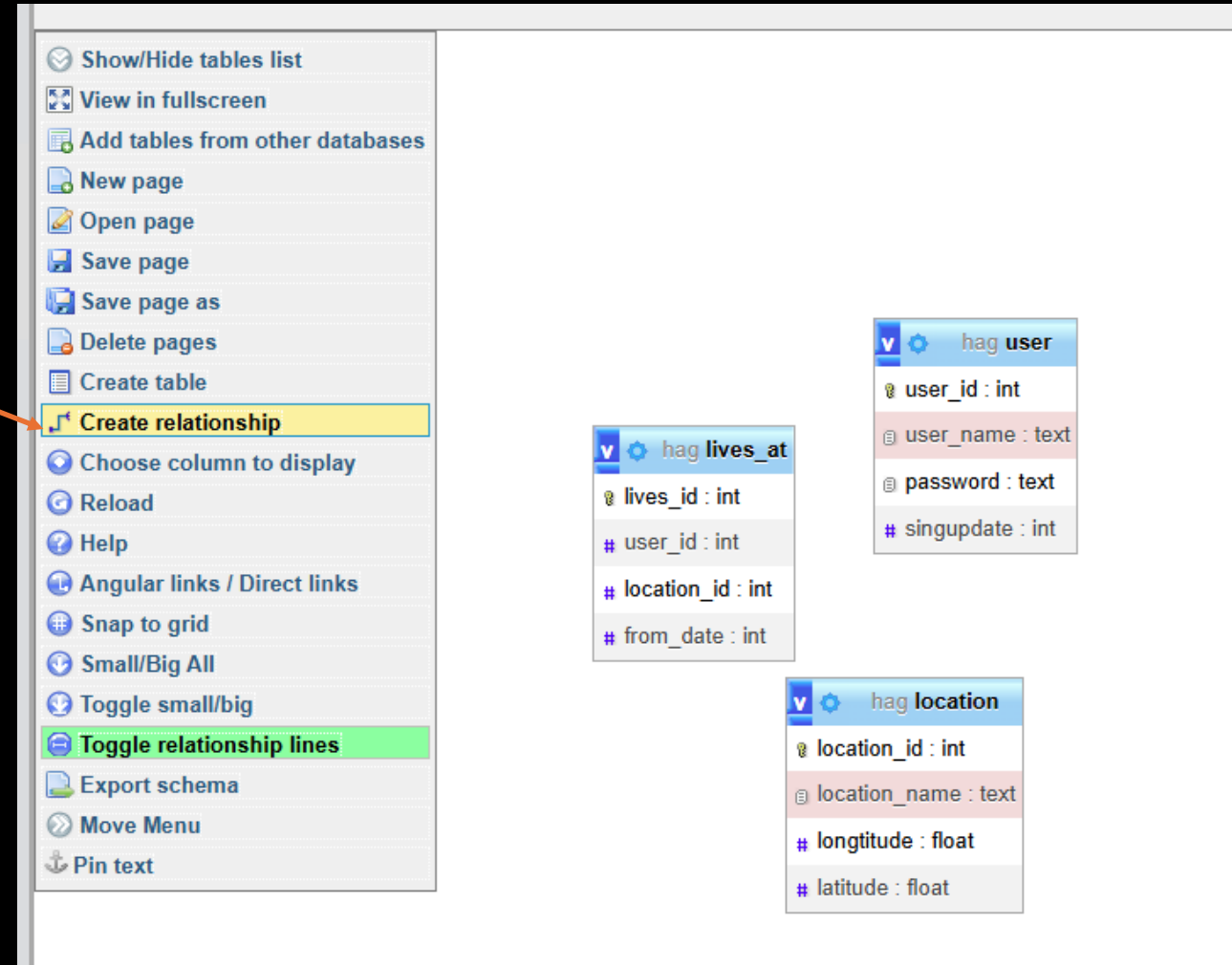
Click the columns you want to link

- Click on each of the 2 cols to link, and this box appears:

- Choose "cascase" on each drop down (important to choose this)

If you get an error...

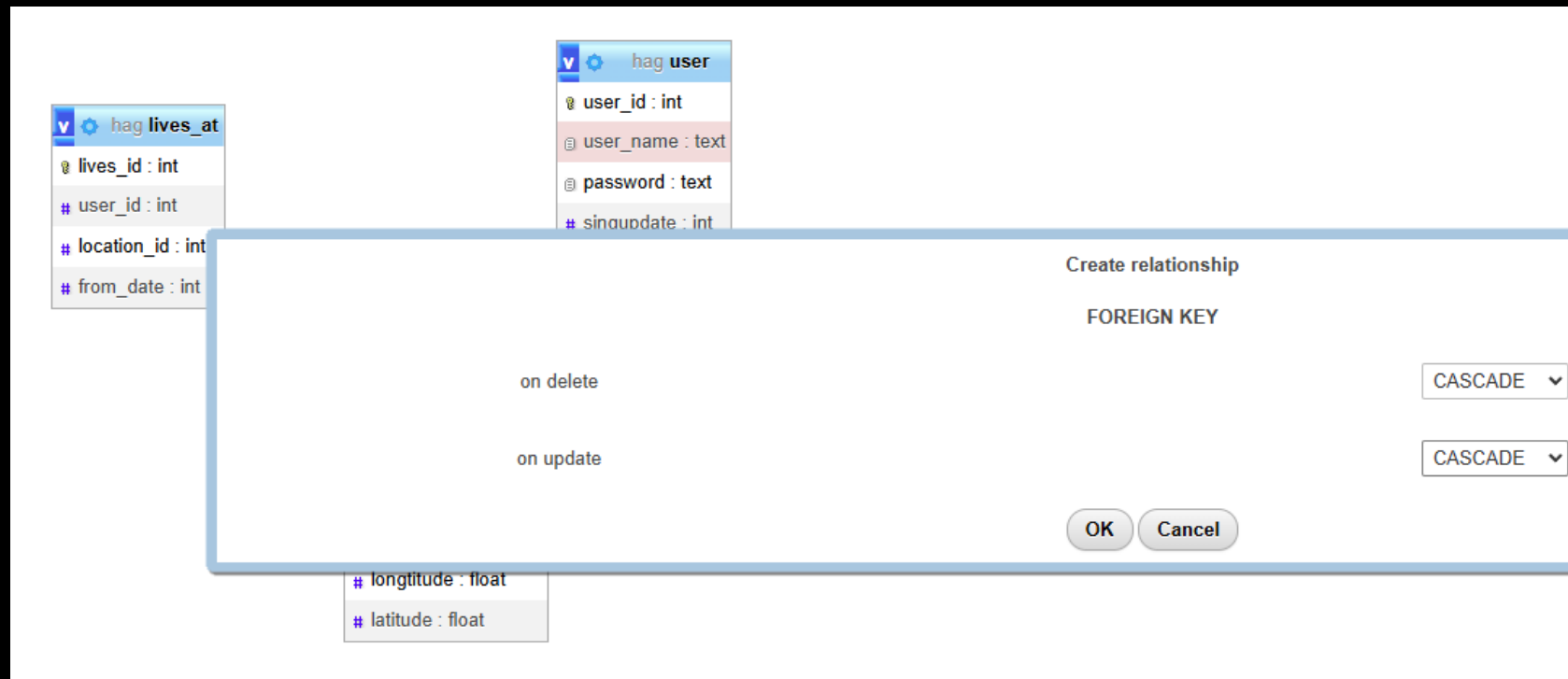- Then either: You havent indexed the columns OR they are not the correct data types (int / text etc, they have to match to build the relationship)

Repeat

- This process for each relationship in your database