What is a fixed-width file format?

Is a file format where data is arranged in columns, but instead of those columns being delimited by a certain character (as they are in CSV) every row is the exact same length

How is the format specified?

The format is specified by column widths, pad character, and left/right alignment. Column widths are measured in units of characters where each column has a defined width

What are the rules a fixed-width text file should follow?

* Consistent field widths
* Padding for shorter values
* No field delimiters
* Line length consistency
* No truncation of data
* Uniform encoding and format