RALinks Data Glossary

## Purpose

An interesting game to play, project for learning programming, and way to consider how relationships between recording artists affects their work.

What Can You Do With RALinks

## Database Objects

### Entity Tables

Entity table records has some standard fields in addition to any entity specific fields.

Standard fields:

A serial number primary key with the field name [table name]ID.

A display name usually having the field name [table name]DisplayName.

A timestamp with the name CreateDt

**Person**

A human. Each person has their own record. Artists recording under their own name will have a record in the Person table and a record in the Artist table.

**Artist**

A person or group to which a recording is attributed.

**Album**

A collection of tracks. To start out I’ll define deluxe or bonus track versions as separate Albums as long as the collection of tracks is different. If this distinction becomes distracting when finding links I may reverse the decision.

**Song**

A song. A song may be performed by any number of artist and be recorded any number of times. Special cases such as songs that include other songs or songs with a new name that are variations of other songs will be addressed only in the notes for now.

**Track**

Defined by a track on a CD. The idea can be applied directly to files downloaded from music sites. Use best judgement when applying to vinyl or tapes. Multiple sequential tracks that together represent one song with continuous sound may be combined with notes in the note field. “Fly From Here” is an example. Such cases without continuous sound aren’t combined. “Karn Evil 9: 1st Impression” is an example.

**Playlist**

**PlaylistTrack**

This is meant as a convenient way to keep track of playlists. It’s not really part of the recording artists project.

### Relationship Tables

Relationship tables are many-to-many relationships between two entity tables. For example the contribution table shows the relationships between people (records in the Person table) and Tracks. A track can have any number of contributions from any person and from any number of people. A person can contribute to any number of tracks.

**Contribution**

This is a relationship between the Person table and the Track table. In this context “Track” is considered to be the same as “Recording”.

**Composer**

This is a relationship between the Person table and the Song table.

### Mapping Tables

Mapping tables are kind of reverse lookup tables. Over time I’ll add to these tables to group values in free-form fields.

**ContributionMapping**

Maps Contribution.ContributionDesc.

**ComposerMapping**

Maps Composer.ComposerDesc.

### Lookup Tables

Normalized tables for indicators display names.

**ContributionCls**

Includes ContributionClsMusicianInd to differentiate between musicians and other contribution types such as engineer or producer.

A reviewer will set ContributionClsReviewedInd to true as part of a manual review process.