

Terminology

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What is a Database?

A Database is a collection of related information.

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What is a Database Management System(DBMS)?

It is a software that helps users to create and maintain databases, it helps users to perform "CRUD": create, read, update and delete.

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There are two types of Databases:

- 1- Relational Databases that store data in tables: each table have columns and rows where each row is identified by a unique id.
- 2- Non-Relational Databases that do not store data in tables. There is no common characteristic for the different types of Non-Relational Databases: some may store data in documents, others in graphs, etc.

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What is Relational Database Management System(RDBMS)?

It is a software that helps users to create and maintain relational databases.

RDBMS includes: mySQL, Oracle, postgresSQL, etc.

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What is Structured Query Language(SQL)?

It is a standarized language used to interact with RDBMS.

We use SQL to communicate and give orders to RDBMS, and RDBMS manages the database.

Although there is a formal specification that defines SQL, each RBDMS implements SQL slightly differently; the concept is the same, but the implementaion is a little bit different; so you may need to tweak your code a little bit to migrate it between different RDBMS.

SQL is a hybrid language:it is made up of four different mini-languages:

- 1-- DQL(Data Query Language): used to query the database for information that already exist.
- 2-- DDL(Data Definition Language): used for defining databases schemas.
- 3-- DCL(Data Control Language): Used for user permission management; controls who can access the data in the database.
- 4-- DML(Data Manipulation Language): used to insert, update and delete data from the database.

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What is Non-Relational Database Management System(NRDBMS)?

It is a software that helps users to create and maintain non-relational databases.

NRDBMS includes: mongoDB, firebase, etc. Each NRDBMS has its own language.

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What is a Query?

It is a request to the DBMS for specific information.

A Google search is a query.

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Tables have two parts: rows and columns.

A row is a horizontal alignment of data.

Data in a row contains information that describes a single entity

A column is a vertical alignment of data.

Data in a column describes a field of information all entities possess.

Students

+	---	+	-----	+	-----	+
	id		name		age	
+	---	+	-----	+	-----	+
	1		Tim		15	
+	---	+	-----	+	-----	+
	2		Rim		16	
+	---	+	-----	+	-----	+
	3		Jim		17	
+	---	+	-----	+	-----	+

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Every table will have a special column known as "The Primary Key".

A Primary Key is a unique attribute that defines a single row.

The Primary Key can be an id, email, username, etc.

Primary Keys can be surrogate or Natural.

What is a surrogate key?

A surrogate key is a random value that identifies a row.

It has no mapping to the real world.

What is a Natural Key?

Natural key is a meaningful value that identifies a row.
It has mapping to the real world.

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What is a Foreign Key?

A Foreign Key is a column in one table, that refers to the Primary Key in another table.

We use it to link the first table to the second one.

A single table can have multiple columns of foreign key.

Students

id	name	age	dorm_unit_id
1	Tim	22	1
2	Rim	24	2
3	Jim	26	3

Dorm_Units

dorm_unit_id	location	sq_ft
1	building A	30
2	building B	42
3	building A	30

A foreign key can refer to the same table.

Students

id	name	age	supervisor_id
1	Tim	15	2
2	Rim	16	1
3	Jim	17	1

Rim supervises Tim and Tim supervises Rim and Jim.

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What is a composite key?

A combination of multiple columns, and these columns are used to identify all the rows that are involved.

Students

student_id	name	age
1	Tim	15
2	Rim	16
3	Jim	17

Teachers

teacher_id	name	age
1	Rob	40
2	Dan	26
3	Cal	38

Studied_Together

student_id	teacher_id	hours
2	2	10
1	3	12
3	1	14