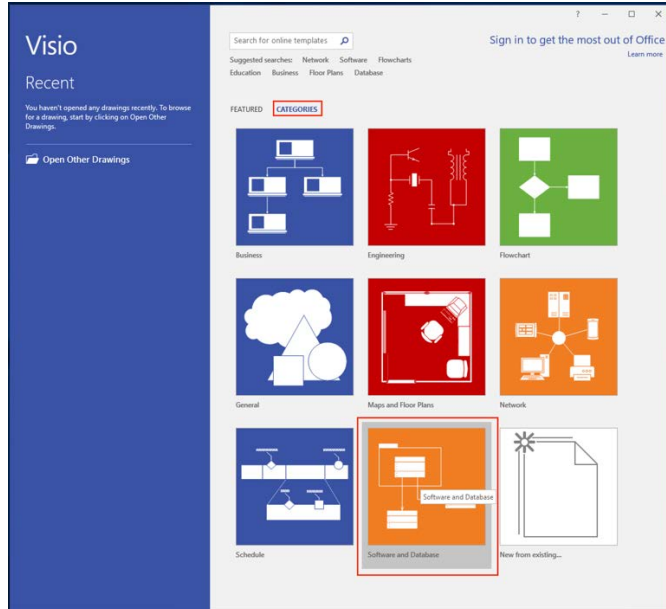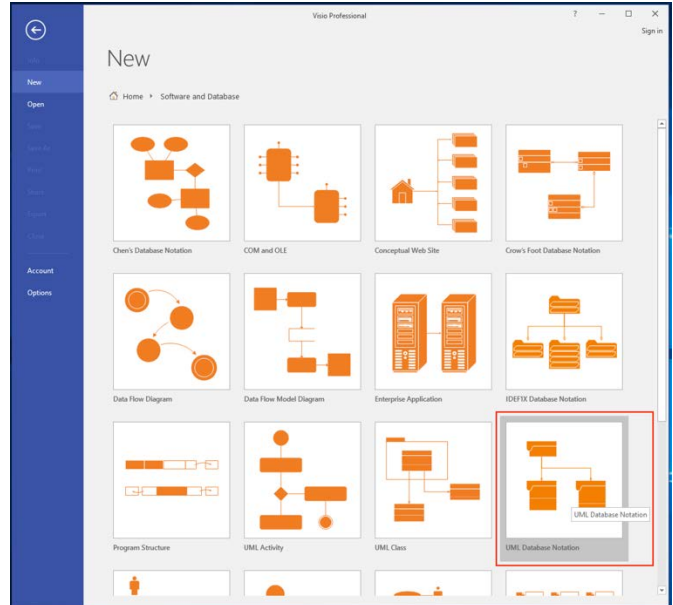# EER Diagrams in Visio 2016

Older versions of Visio allowed the high fidelity design of MSSQL databases. Keys, Indexes, relationships and constraints could be specified, effectively allowing for all aspects of a database to be described. The most recent version of Visio is a much simpler tool. It focuses on providing a high level description of a database and the relationships between tables. As such, not all aspects of a database can be described with Visio 2016.

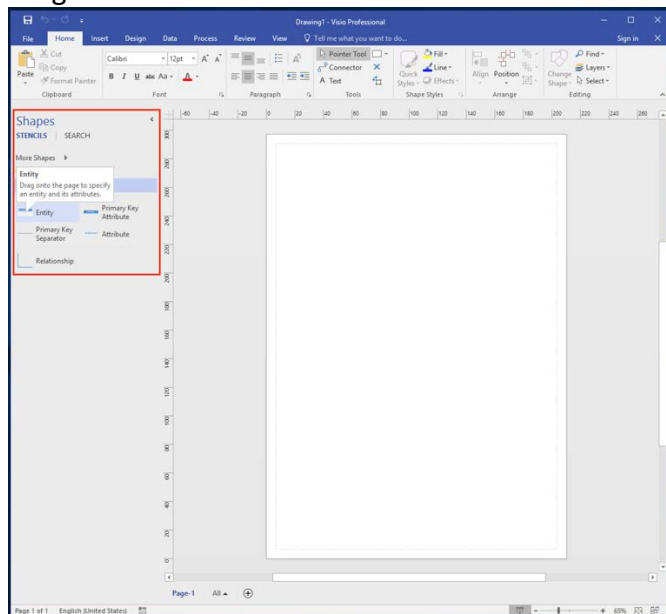## 1 Create EER Diagram

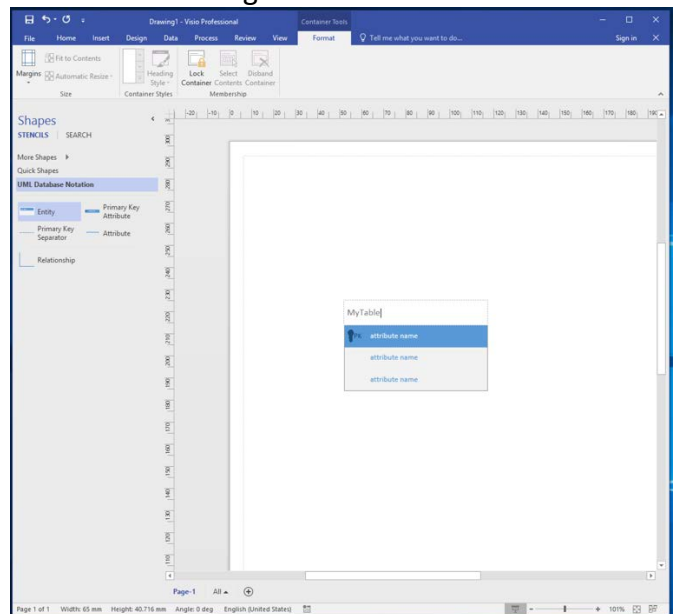| Select CATEGORIES -> Software and Database	Select UML Database Notation, then Create

2 Create Table (Entity)

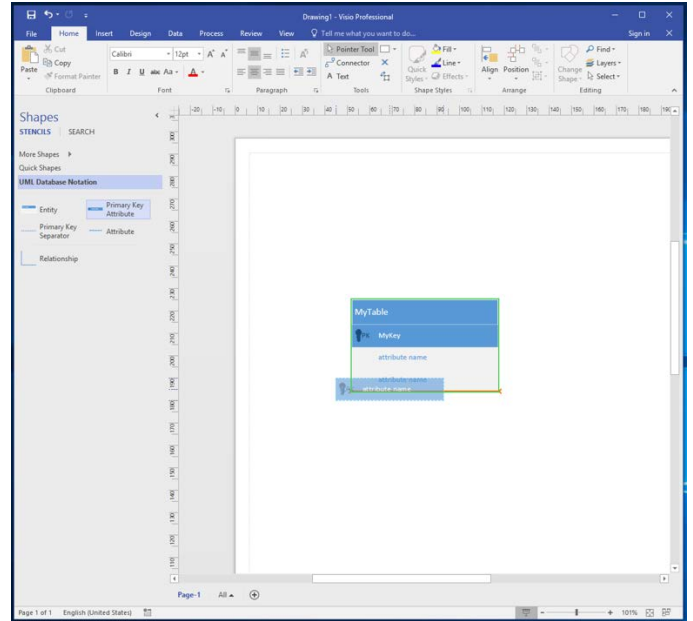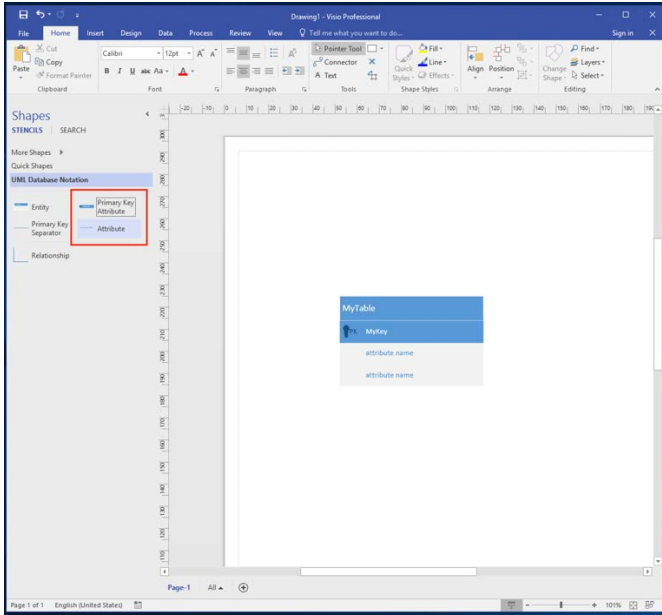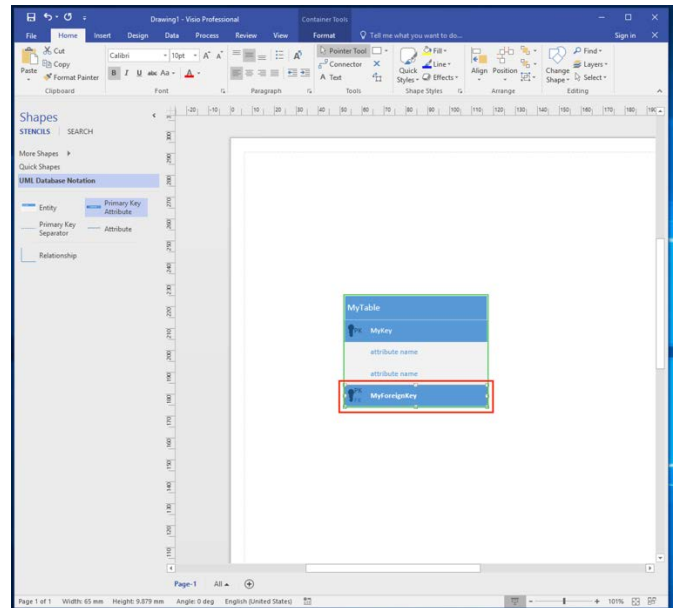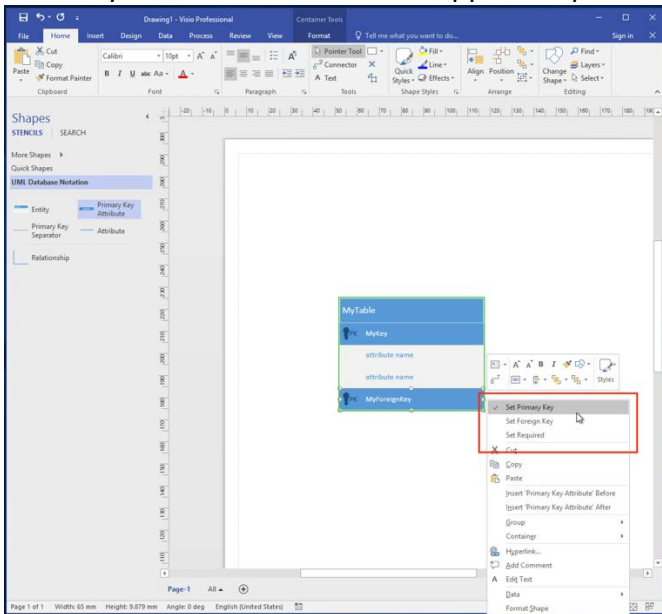| Select the 'Entity' shape from the sidebar and drag it into the document	Double click the labels on the entity or its attributes to change their values

3 Adding Attributes (Fields)

Attributes are added to tables by dragging the 'Attribute' shapes from the sidebar to an entity. Attributes can be renamed by double-clicking on their label.
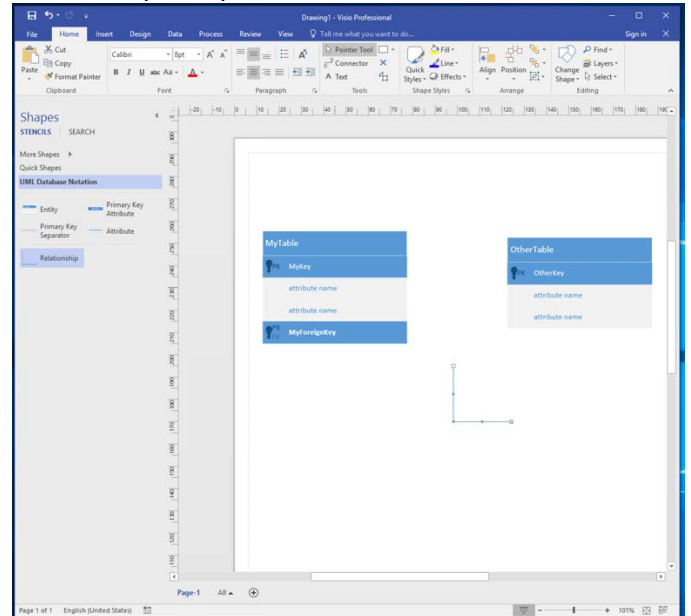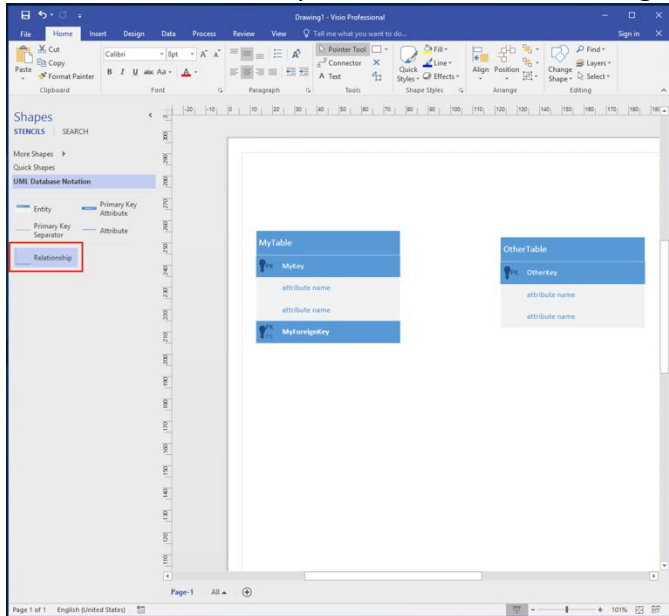

4 Attribute Characteristics

Only 'Primary Key Attribute' fields can represent Primary Keys, Foreign Keys and Required Fields. To toggle any of these characteristics, right click on the attribute and select the characteristic. A single attribute can have any of these characteristics applied in parallel.
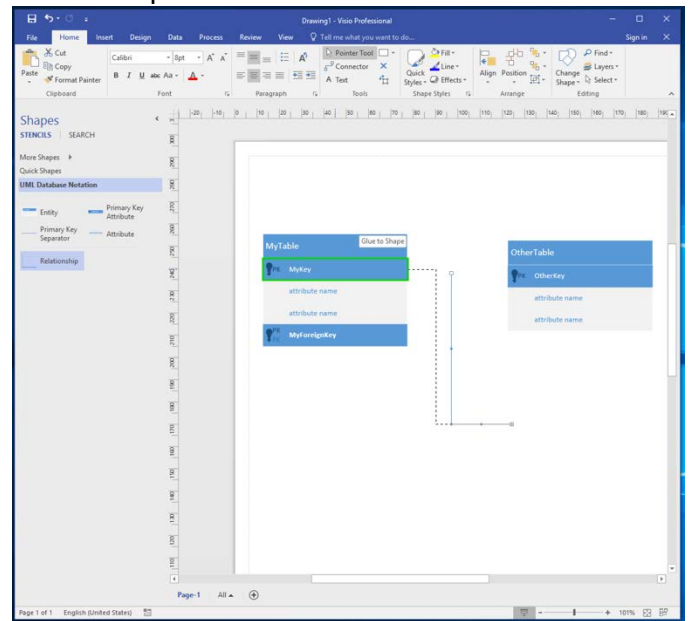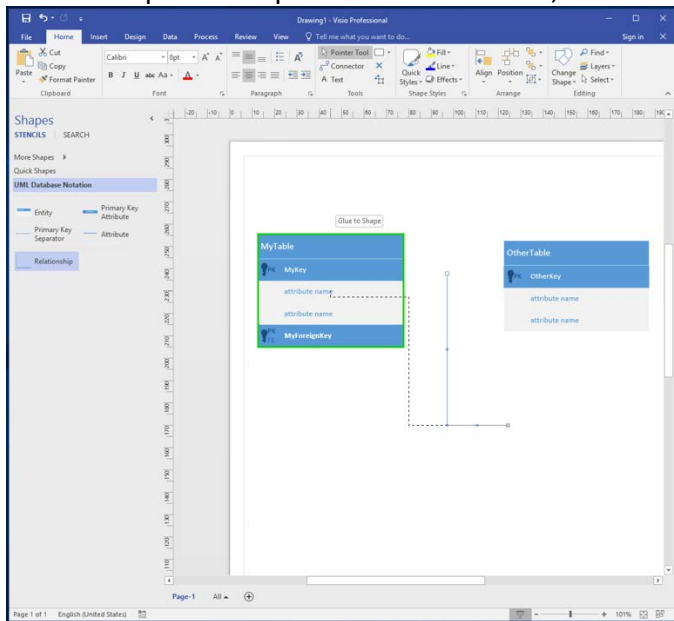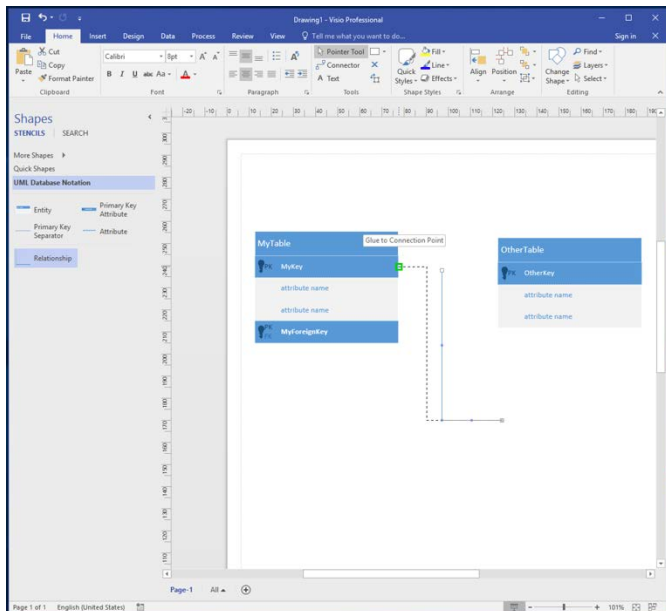
5 Relationships

To create a relationship between two tables, drag the 'Relationship' shape into the document.
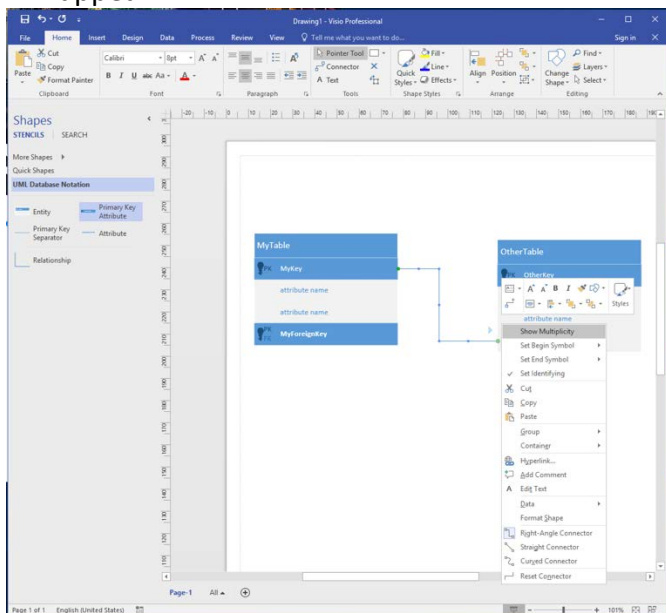

The relationship can be manipulated by dragging the handles on each end to other shapes. A relationship can 'snap' onto a whole table, individual attribute or specific side of an attribute.
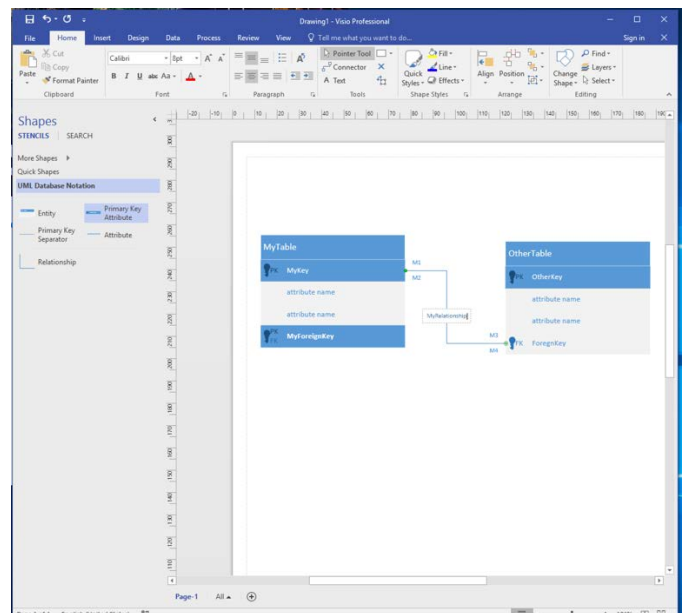
To show the multiplicity of a relationship, right-click and select 'Show Multiplicity'. Placeholders will appear.

To name the relationship, double-click on it to show its label.

6. Super-sub class drawing

To draw the super-sub relationship/inheritance, draw a normal relationship to connect the two entities, then right click on the link, select Set End Symbol, select Inheritance.