

Normalization

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♦ Normal Forms (Steps of Normalization)

1NF (First Normal Form)

- Each column should have **atomic values** (no multiple values in a single field).
- No repeating groups.

✓ Example (Unnormalized Table):

StudentID	StudentName	Subjects
1	Kapil	Math, Science
2	Sneha	English, History

✗ Problem: Multiple values in "Subjects".

👉 1NF Conversion:

StudentID	StudentName	Subject
1	Kapil	Math
1	Kapil	Science
2	Sneha	English
2	Sneha	History

2NF (Second Normal Form)

- Must be in **1NF**.
- No **partial dependency** (non-key attribute should not depend on part of a composite key).

✓ Example (1NF Table):

StudentID	Subject	Teacher
1	Math	Sangeetha
1	Science	Tharun

✗ Problem: "Teacher" depends only on "Subject", not on the full composite key (StudentID + Subject).

👉 2NF Conversion:

Students Table

StudentID	StudentName
1	Kapil
2	Sneha

Subjects Table

Subject	Teacher
Math	Sangeetha
Science	Tharun
English	Tharun
History	Sangeetha

StudentSubjects Table

StudentID	Subject
1	Math
1	Science
2	English
2	History

3NF (Third Normal Form)

- Must be in **2NF**.
- No **transitive dependency** (non-key column depending on another non-key column).

✓ Example (2NF Table):

Subject	Teacher	TeacherPhone
Math	Sangeetha	9991112222
Science	Tharun	8881112222

✗ Problem: "TeacherPhone" depends on "Teacher", not directly on "Subject".

👉 **3NF Conversion:**

Subjects Table

Subject	Teacher
Math	Sangeetha
Science	Tharun

Teachers Table

Teacher	TeacherPhone
Sangeetha	9991112222
Tharun	8881112222

BCNF (Boyce-Codd Normal Form)

- A stronger version of **3NF**.
- Every determinant must be a **candidate key**.

👉 Example:

If a course has multiple instructors, but one instructor can only teach one subject → BCNF helps resolve this by further splitting.

♦ Benefits of Normalization

- Eliminates redundancy.
- Prevents anomalies.
- Ensures data integrity.
- Easier to maintain and scale.

✅ Summary:

- **1NF**: Atomic values, no repeating groups.
- **2NF**: No partial dependency.
- **3NF**: No transitive dependency.
- **BCNF**: Every determinant must be a candidate key.