

Retails & Inventory Management Systems

Table Dependency Hierarchy:

In order to maintain referential integrity while creating the tables in your **Retail & Inventory Management System**, you should create them in a specific order based on their relationships (Foreign Keys and Primary Keys). Here's a recommended order for creating the tables:

Table Creation Order:

1. **Categories**
(No dependencies; it's the foundation for other tables like **Products**.)
2. **Regions**
(No dependencies; used later in **Locations** and **Tax**.)
3. **Vendors**
(No dependencies; it will link with **Products**.)
4. **Carriers**
(No dependencies; will be used in **Shipments**.)
5. **Employees**
(No dependencies; needed for **Managers** and **Bonuses**.)
6. **Locations**
(Depends on **Regions**, so **Regions** should be created first.)
7. **Warehouses**
(No dependencies; linked later to **Inventory** and **Managers**.)
8. **Suppliers**
(No dependencies; **Products** will reference **Suppliers**.)
9. **Tax**
(Depends on **Regions**, so **Regions** should be created first.)
10. **Managers**
(Depends on **Employees**, should be created after **Employees**.)
11. **Products**
(Depends on **Categories** and **Suppliers**.)
12. **Inventory**
(Depends on **Products** and **Warehouses**.)
13. **Customers**
(No dependencies; used in **Orders**, **CustomerReviews**, **CustomerSubscriptions**, **LoyaltyPrograms**.)

14. Promotions

(No dependencies; will link with **Orders**.)

15. Orders

(Depends on **Customers**, **Promotions**, and will later be linked to **OrderItems**, **Payments**, **Shipments**, and **Transactions**.)

16. OrderItems

(Depends on **Orders** and **Products**.)

17. Payments

(Depends on **Orders** and **PaymentMethods**.)

18. PaymentMethods

(No dependencies; used in **Payments**.)

19. Transactions

(Depends on **Orders** and **Payments**.)

20. Shipments

(Depends on **Orders** and **Carriers**.)

21. Refunds

(Depends on **Orders** and **Products**.)

22. CustomerReviews

(Depends on **Customers** and **Products**.)

23. Bonuses

(Depends on **Employees** and **Suppliers**.)

24. CustomerSubscriptions

(Depends on **Customers**.)

25. Notifications

(No dependencies; can be linked to both **Customers** and **Employees**.)

26. LoyaltyPrograms

(Depends on **Customers**.)

Reason for This Order:

- **Independent tables** (those without foreign key dependencies like **Categories**, **Carriers**, **Employees**, etc.) should be created first.
- Tables that depend on others (e.g., **Orders** depends on **Customers**) should come later in the order, ensuring that referenced tables (e.g., **Products**, **Warehouses**) are created before the referencing tables.
- Foreign keys must always reference an existing table. That's why tables like **Orders**, **Shipments**, **Payments**, and **Transactions** should be created after their referenced tables (**Customers**, **Carriers**, **PaymentMethods**, etc.) are in place.

Instructor: Hikmat Ullah

This approach will ensure smooth creation of all tables while maintaining **referential integrity** between them. Let me know if you need further clarification!