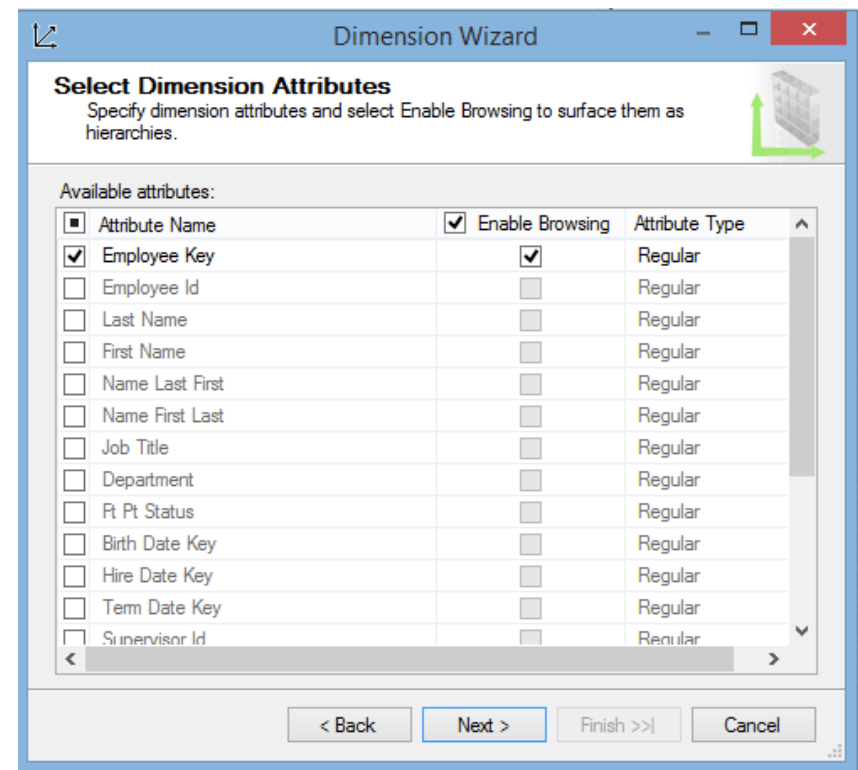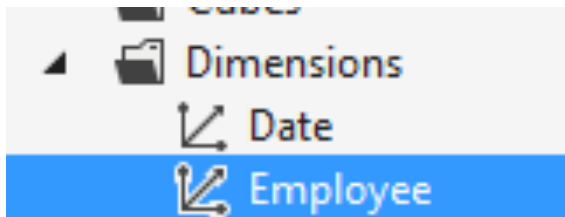# Building Dimensions

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Developing Dimensions: The Steps

1. Create dimension from source.

2. Add and configure attributes.

3. Configure hierarchies.

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1. Creating Dimensions From Source

- Choose the ROLAP dimension from the data source view.

- Start with only the key attribute.

- Add the other attributes manually.

- Best practice: Drop "Dim" from the name.

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2. Configuring Attributes

- We configure how we want the attributes presented to the user.

- Important properties
  - Name
  - Key column
  - Name column
  - Value column
  - Order by (key or name?)

Example: Month
- Key: month of year
- Value: month name
- Order by: key

All
- Unknown
- January
- February
- March
- April
- May
- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December

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3. Configure Hierarchies

Allow us to drill-down through attributes.

Three types:

1. Natural: 1-M relationship among hierarchies
   - E.g., Year → Month → Day
2. Unnatural: no dependent relationship
   - E.g., Color → Size
3. Parent-child
   - E.g., Employee → Supervisor
   - Automatic when self-join exists in dimension.

Examples:

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