

We must always specify the type of data that will be inserted in each column of the table

Different data types represent different types of information that can be contained in a specific column

	Surname of a person:	
string	'James'	

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length

a measure used to indicate how many symbols a certain string has



	Surname of a person:	length	
string	'James'	5 symbols	
	'Jackson'	7 symbols	

length

a measure used to indicate how many symbols a certain string has



Digits, symbols, or blank spaces can also be used in the string format

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they will only convey text information
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e.g. addresses: 'Hugh Street 45'
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size

indicates the memory space used by a data type

- measured in bytes
- 1 byte ~ 1 symbol

	Surname of a person:	length	size
string	'James'	5 symbols	5 bytes

storage

the physical space in the computer drive's memory, where the data is being saved or stored