# Synonyms

A synonym is a database object that serves the following purposes:

* Provides an alternative name for another database object, referred to as the base object, that can exist on a local or remote server.
* Provides a layer of abstraction that protects a client application from changes made to the name or location of the base object.

For example, consider the **Employee** table of Adventure Works, located on a server named **Server1**. To reference this table from another server, **Server2**, a client application would have to use the four-part name **Server1.AdventureWorks.Person.Employee**. Also, if the location of the table were to change, for example, to another server, the client application would have to be modified to reflect that change.

To address both these issues, you can create a synonym, **EmpTable**, on **Server2** for the **Employee** table on **Server1**. Now, the client application only has to use the single-part name, **EmpTable**, to reference the **Employee** table. Also, if the location of the **Employee** table changes, you will have to modify the synonym, **EmpTable**, to point to the new location of the **Employee** table. Because there is no ALTER SYNONYM statement, you first have to drop the synonym, **EmpTable**, and then re-create the synonym with the same name, but point the synonym to the new location of **Employee**.

CREATE SYNONYM MyAddressType FOR AdventureWorks2012.Person.AddressType;

INSERT INTO MyAddressType (Name) VALUES ('Test');