



Hibernate & Spring Data JPA

Beginner to Guru

Hibernate Primary Keys



Numeric Primary Keys

```
@Id  
@GeneratedValue(strategy = GenerationType.AUTO)  
private Long id;
```

- GenerationType.AUTO - Let Hibernate Pick - best practice is to specify
- GenerationType.SEQUENCE - Use database sequence (Not a feature of MySQL)
- GenerationType.IDENTITY - Use auto-incremented database columns
- GenerationType.TABLE - Use database table to simulate sequence
 - This is what we have been using, least scalable of the options





UUID Primary Keys

- UUID (you-id) - Universally Unique Identifier, a unique 128 bit value
- Common to use as primary key, can help index performance
 - Downside is it uses more disk space
- IETF RFC 4122 - an international standard for UUID generation
 - Hibernate by default implements a custom generator
 - Hibernate can be configured to generate a IETF RFC 4122 compliant UUID



Natural Primary Keys

- Natural Primary Keys - A unique value with business meaning outside of the database
- A UPC or ISBN could be considered a natural key, since both are expected to be unique
- Common in old legacy databases
- NOT considered best practice



Composite Primary Keys

- Composite Primary Keys - Two values with business meaning combined to make a unique value
- Not considered best practice
- Also common in legacy databases



Which to Use???

- Small Table - ie, few million rows - favor number (Integer or Long)
- Large Table - ie, 10's of millions or billions - favor UUID (if disk space allows)
- Generally avoid using natural or composite keys
 - Fine in edge cases, like a small code lookup table



Coming Up in the Course

- Hibernate Primary Key Examples
 - Auto Increment - Already showing table, sequence not supported by MySQL
 - UUID
 - UUID RFC 4122
 - Natural Key
 - Composite
- Goal of section is to provide you a cookbook for future reference



