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| --- | --- | --- |
| Parameter | PRIMARY KEY | UNIQUE KEY |
| Basic | Used to serve as a unique identifier for each row in a table. | Uniquely determines a row which isn’t primary key. |
| NULL value acceptance | Cannot accept NULL values. | Can accepts NULL values. |
| Number of keys that can be defined in the table | Only one primary key | More than one unique key |
| Index | Creates clustered index | Creates non-clustered index |
| Auto Increment | A Primary key supports auto increment value. | A unique key does not supports auto increment value. |
| Modification | We cannot change or delete values stored in primary keys. | We can change unique key values. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| S.NO. | PRIMARY KEY | FOREIGN KEY |
| 1 | A primary key is used to ensure data in the specific column is unique. | A foreign key is a column or group of columns in a relational database table that provides a link between data in two tables. |
| 2 | It uniquely identifies a record in the relational database table. | It refers to the field in a table which is the primary key of another table. |
| 3 | Only one primary key is allowed in a table. | Whereas more than one foreign key are allowed in a table. |
| 4 | It is a combination of UNIQUE and Not Null constraints. | It can contain duplicate values and a table in a relational database. |
| 5 | It does not allow NULL values. | It can also contain NULL values. |
| 6 | Its value cannot be deleted from the parent table. | Its value can be deleted from the child table. |
| 7 | It constraint can be implicitly defined on the temporary tables. | It constraint cannot be defined on the local or global temporary tables. |

A design pattern is a concept or a receipt for how to get a specific problem done, they solve many software architecture issues.

The repository pattern is **intended to create an abstraction layer** between **the DAL and the BLogicL of an application**. It is a data access pattern that prompts a more loosely coupled approach to data access.