

## **An Inventory Database: Frank**

As a lifelong hobbyist, I have become a collector of tools, materials, supplies, for everything I've been interested in for as long as I can remember. Collecting can become troublesome for me over time as I have yet to find a good system for accessible storage and efficient retrieval, and I often find myself yearning for a 'command F' button for my life. When I worked as a researcher in a biochemistry lab, for the first-time I witnessed storage management databases built for volume, efficiency, and accessibility. In attempt to recreate my own DBMS for my own things, I've built Frank.

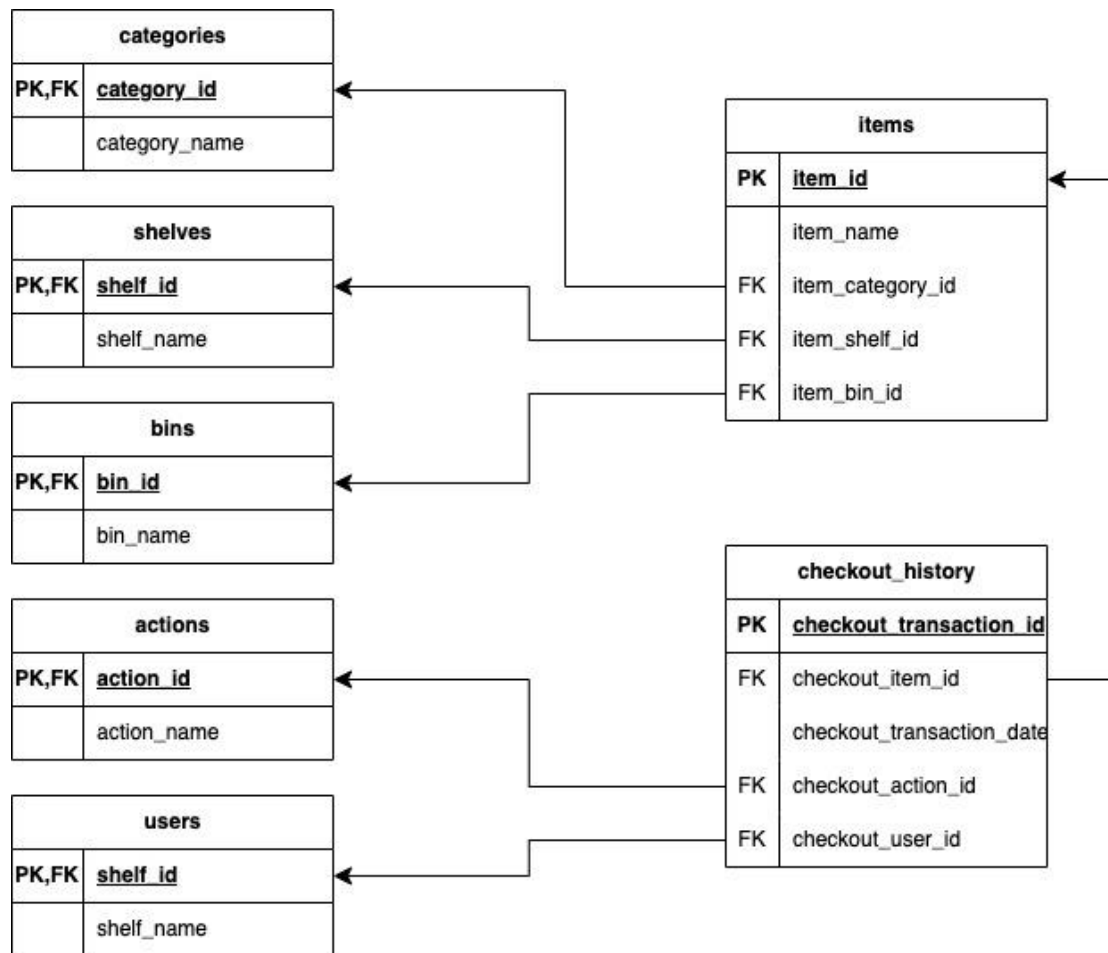
My goal is to keep a digital log of all my things stored in a physical storage system:

- Three physical shelving units with 25 cubes each (5x5 grid)
- A list of users who can check in and check out items from the shelves
- Ability to see a view of all items and their locations, if they're checked out or in storage, when the last interaction was, and who did it
- A log of all the past interactions, with date and user
- A way to search for items based on name or category

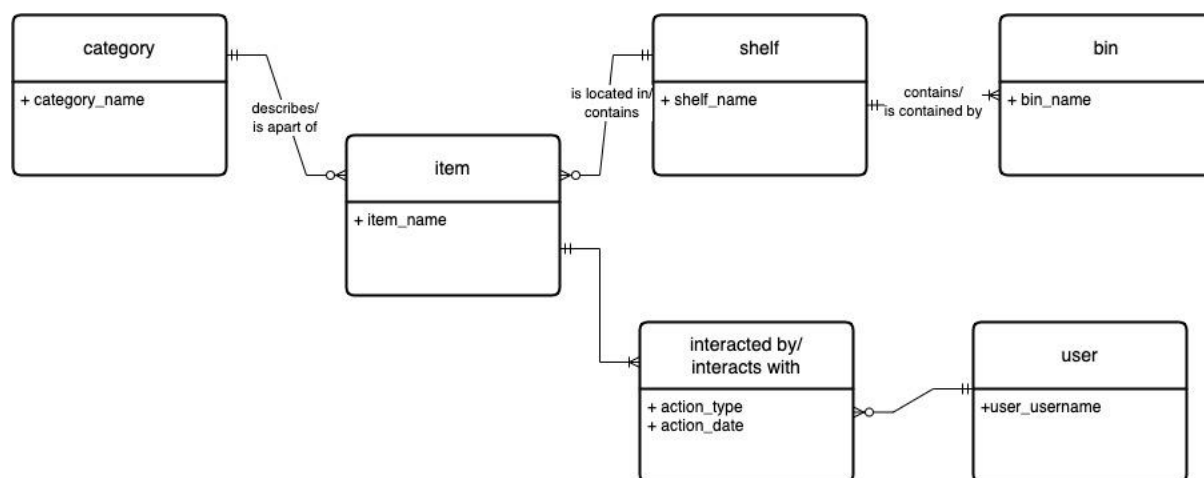
Here are the tables I decided on:

- Shelves (with names decided arbitrarily)
- Bins (with names: A1:E5)
- Users (assuming me and my brothers are the only ones who access my storage)
- Categories (general terms to categorize each item)
- Items (all items and locations table)
- Checkout\_history (all check-ins, check-outs, new additions)

Their relationships can be modeled by:



**Figure 1.** Frank Logical Model



**Figure 2.** Frank Entity Relationship Diagram

## Views:

- **all\_things\_and\_homes:**
  - Displays item details including item\_id, item\_name, category\_name, and location composed of shelf\_name and bin\_name.
- **checkout\_history\_recent:**
  - Shows the most recent checkout transaction details for each item, including checkout\_item\_id, most\_recent\_date, checkout\_action\_id, and checkout\_user\_id.
- **all\_things\_history:**
  - Provides a user-friendly view of the complete checkout history, showing checkout\_transaction\_id, checkout\_transaction\_date, checkout\_item\_id, action (action\_name), and last\_used\_by (user\_username).
- **items\_inventory:**
  - Combines checkout history with item details to present a comprehensive inventory view, including checkout\_item\_id, item\_name, category\_name, location, most\_recent\_date, action, and last\_used\_by.
- **items\_inventory\_cat\_keys:**
  - Extends items\_inventory with keyword search functionality based on category\_name keywords.
- **items\_inventory\_item\_keys:**
  - Extends items\_inventory with keyword search functionality based on item\_name keywords.

## Constraints:

- **Primary Keys:**
  - pk\_shelves\_shelf\_id: Primary key constraint on shelf\_id column in shelves table.
  - pk\_bins\_bin\_id: Primary key constraint on bin\_id column in bins table.
  - pk\_actions\_action\_id: Primary key constraint on action\_id column in actions table.
  - pk\_categories\_category\_id: Primary key constraint on category\_id column in categories table.
  - pk\_users\_user\_id: Primary key constraint on user\_id column in users table.
  - pk\_items\_item\_id: Primary key constraint on item\_id column in items table.
  - pk\_checkout\_history\_transaction\_id: Primary key constraint on checkout\_transaction\_id column in checkout\_history table.
- **Unique Constraints:**
  - ck\_shelves\_shelf\_name: Unique constraint on shelf\_name column in shelves table.
  - ck\_bins\_bin\_name: Unique constraint on bin\_name column in bins table.
  - ck\_actions\_action\_name: Unique constraint on action\_name column in actions table.
  - ck\_categories\_category\_name: Unique constraint on category\_name column in categories table.
  - ck\_users\_username: Unique constraint on user\_username column in users table.
  - u\_items\_item\_name: Unique constraint on item\_name column in items table.

- **Foreign Key Constraints:**
  - `fk_items_item_shelf_id`: Foreign key constraint referencing `shelf_id` column in `shelves` table from `item_shelf_id` column in `items` table.
  - `fk_items_item_category_id`: Foreign key constraint referencing `category_id` column in `categories` table from `item_category_id` column in `items` table.
  - `fk_items_item_bin_id`: Foreign key constraint referencing `bin_id` column in `bins` table from `item_bin_id` column in `items` table.
  - `fk_checkout_history_item_id`: Foreign key constraint referencing `item_id` column in `items` table from `checkout_item_id` column in `checkout_history` table.
  - `fk_checkout_history_action_id`: Foreign key constraint referencing `action_id` column in `actions` table from `checkout_action_id` column in `checkout_history` table.
  - `fk_checkout_history_user_id`: Foreign key constraint referencing `user_id` column in `users` table from `checkout_user_id` column in `checkout_history` table.

## Functions:

- `search_categories`:
  - Parameters: Accepts a varchar parameter `@search`.
  - Returns: Returns a table containing rows from `items_inventory_cat_keys` where the keyword matches `@search`.
- `search_items`:
  - Parameters: Accepts a varchar parameter `@search`.
  - Returns: Returns a table containing rows from `items_inventory_item_keys` where the keyword matches `@search`.

## Procedures:

- `checkout_item`:
  - Parameters: Takes `@item_name` (varchar) and `@username` (varchar).
  - Functionality: Updates `checkout_history` to mark an item as checked out by a specific user, with error handling for items already checked out or invalid user/item combinations.
- `return_item`:
  - Parameters: Takes `@item_name` (varchar) and `@username` (varchar).
  - Functionality: Updates `checkout_history` to mark an item as returned by a specific user, with error handling for items not checked out or invalid user/item combinations.
- `add_item`:
  - Parameters: Takes `@item` (varchar), `@category` (varchar), `@shelf` (char), and `@bin` (varchar).
  - Functionality: Inserts a new item into the `items` table with specified details including category, shelf, and bin, ensuring data integrity through foreign key references.
- `remove_item`:
  - Parameters: Takes `@item` (varchar).

- Functionality: Deletes an item from the items table based on its name, ensuring data integrity and handling errors if the item cannot be found.

## **Data:**

- Shelves:
  - Data Inserted: 'avila', 'shell', 'pismo'
  - Purpose: These are names of shelves where items are stored.
- Bins:
  - Data Inserted: A total of 25 bins ('A1' to 'E5')
  - Purpose: Bins where items can be stored, structured as a 5x5 grid for organization.
- Actions:
  - Data Inserted: 'new addition', 'checked out', 'returned'
  - Purpose: Types of actions recorded in the checkout history, indicating whether an item was added, checked out, or returned.
- Categories:
  - Data Inserted: 'tech equipment', 'surf accessories', 'art supplies', 'tools', 'misc'
  - Purpose: Categories to classify different types of items stored in the inventory.
- Users:
  - Data Inserted: 'nadia', 'anton', 'davos', 'dante'
  - Purpose: Usernames of individuals who interact with the inventory system by checking out or returning items.
- Items:
  - Data Inserted:
    - 'surf wax': Category - 'surf accessories', Shelf - 'avila', Bin - 'A1'
    - 'hdmi cable': Category - 'tech equipment', Shelf - 'avila', Bin - 'B1'
    - 'ceramic stamps': Category - 'art supplies', Shelf - 'shell', Bin - 'A1'
    - 'screwdriver': Category - 'tools', Shelf - 'pismo', Bin - 'D5'
    - 'paintbrushes': Category - 'art supplies', Shelf - 'avila', Bin - 'E2'
    - 'fins': Category - 'surf accessories', Shelf - 'shell', Bin - 'B5'
  - Purpose: Specific items stored in the inventory system, categorized by type, shelf location, and bin location.
- Checkout History:
  - Data Inserted:
    - Records various transactions where items were checked out or returned by users on specific dates.
    - Includes actions such as new additions, checkouts, and returns.