SQL Server Standards

Naming Conventions

All Database Objects

- Try to limit the name to 50 characters (shorter is better)
- Avoid using underscores even if the system allows it, except where noted in this document. PascalCase notation achieves the same word separation without them and in fewer characters.
- Use only letters and in rarest of rare cases underscores (try to avoid numbers).
- Start the name with an alphabet
- Limit the use of acronyms and abbreviations
- Avoid using spaces and use meaningful names

Tables

- Singular Names, Always, Customer – Right; Customers – Wrong.
- Do **not** use any prefixes, like Tbl or TB or T. of course they are tables and when you see a query you would of course know which part is the table name if you know your SQL or LINQ or program. If you have defined modules in the system it makes sense to prefix with the module name though use of schema will be better for differentiating modules
- Use PascalCase
- Do **not** use special characters or numbers or spaces.
- Join tables can be named with the tables involved in the join, taking length into consideration [meaningful abbreviations maybe of help here] Example: CustomerOrder.

Columns

- Do **not** prefix the table name or datatype or some fixed prefixes for every column
- Use PascalCase
- Do **not** use PK, FK, Etc. as prefix. CustomerId – Right; PKCustomerId – Wrong.
- Primary key columns across the entire database can be named as Id
- Name the FKs exactly the same as their PKs, Customer table PK – CustomerID, Order table FK also will be named CustomerID
- Do **not** use special characters or numbers or spaces.

Indexes

- Leave the name as created by SQL for auto created Indexes to identify them easily
- Indicate purpose of the Index while naming
- Covering Indexes can be said so with the names

Constraints

- Use PascalCase

- Give prefixes like Pk Fk Ck (Check) Uq (Unique) Etc.

Stored Procedures, Functions

- Start with Module Name, Sub Module Name, and Purpose. Ex: CustomerAddressSave, OrdersCartGet
- Pascal Case
- Do **not** have prefixes like sp_ Etc.

Generic Points

- Give meaningful variable names
- Match variable datatype with column datatype
- Use CAPS for SQL KJeyWords
- Use ApexSQL tools to Format
- Use fully qualified names wherever possible
- Use the column lists on INSERTs