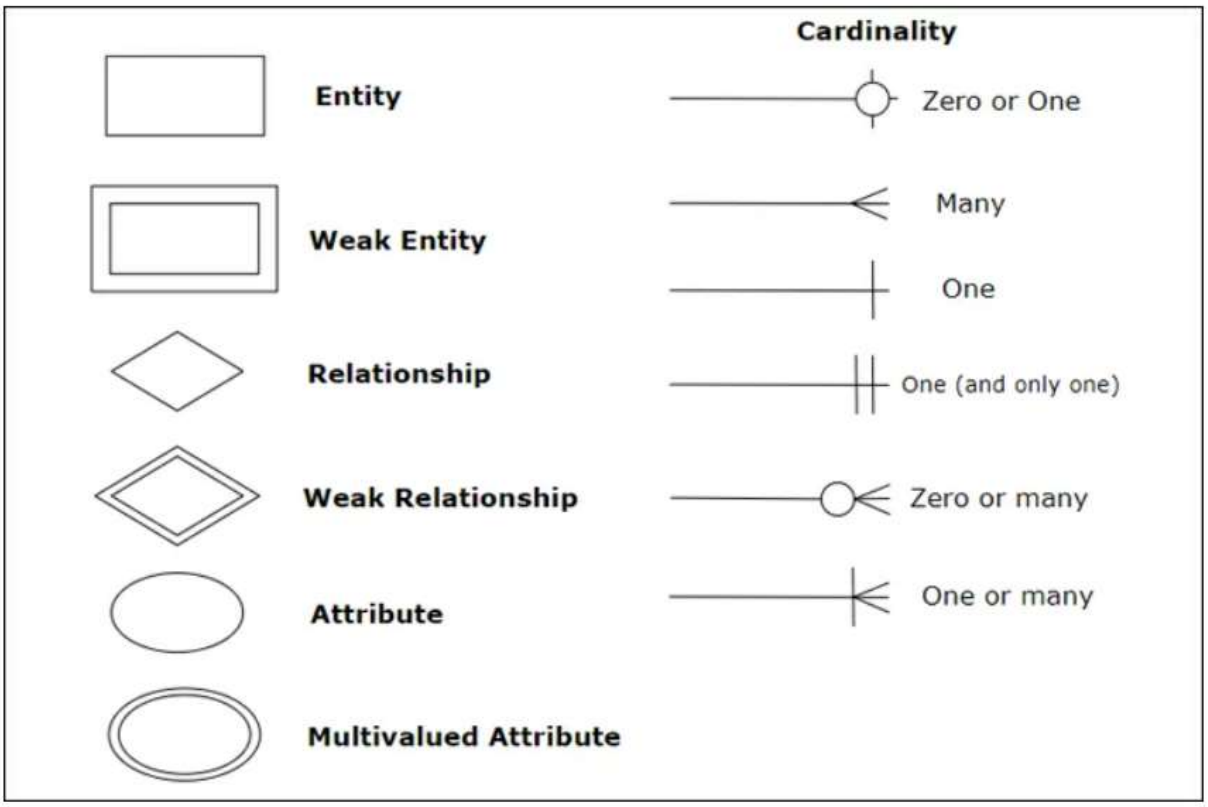
ERD Notations



An entity-relationship diagram consists of three basic elements such as entity, relationship, and attribute. Along with these are more components based on their main elements like weak entity, multi-valued attribute, and many more. Other notations used to make ERD diagram examples include cardinality and ordinality to define relationships in numbers. Here are brief explanations about each component.

Entity- this represents the name of an object, person, thing, event, or place where data is stored. This is usually represented by rectangles.

Weak Entity- unlike a strong entity that is defined by its attributes, a weak entity solely depends on the existence of another entity.

Attribute- refers to the unique characteristic or property of an entity.

Derived Attribute- refers to an attribute derived or based on another attribute.

Multivalued Attribute- a type of attribute that can have multiple values.

Relationship- defines the interaction between two entities.

Cardinality- this refers to the occurrences of a relationship. In particular, it specifies the maximum number of relationships between two entities.

Ordinality- describes whether a relationship is mandatory or optional. It is also used to determine the absolute minimum number of relationships.