

# DATABASE - SECOND NORMAL FORM (2NF)

<http://www.tutorialspoint.com/sql/second-normal-form.htm>

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Second normal form states that it should meet all the rules for 1NF and there must be no partial dependences of any of the columns on the primary key:

Consider a customer-order relation and you want to store customer ID, customer name, order ID and order detail, and date of purchase:

```
CREATE TABLE CUSTOMERS (  
    CUST_ID      INT                NOT NULL,  
    CUST_NAME    VARCHAR (20)       NOT NULL,  
    ORDER_ID     INT                NOT NULL,  
    ORDER_DETAIL VARCHAR (20)       NOT NULL,  
    SALE_DATE    DATETIME,  
    PRIMARY KEY  (CUST_ID, ORDER_ID)  
);
```

This table is in first normal form, in that it obeys all the rules of first normal form. In this table, the primary key consists of CUST\_ID and ORDER\_ID. Combined they are unique assuming same customer would hardly order same thing.

However, the table is not in second normal form because there are partial dependencies of primary keys and columns. CUST\_NAME is dependent on CUST\_ID, and there's no real link between a customer's name and what he purchased. Order detail and purchase date are also dependent on ORDER\_ID, but they are not dependent on CUST\_ID, because there's no link between a CUST\_ID and an ORDER\_DETAIL or their SALE\_DATE.

To make this table comply with second normal form, you need to separate the columns into three tables.

First, create a table to store the customer details as follows:

```
CREATE TABLE CUSTOMERS (  
    CUST_ID      INT                NOT NULL,  
    CUST_NAME    VARCHAR (20)       NOT NULL,  
    PRIMARY KEY  (CUST_ID)  
);
```

Next, create a table to store details of each order:

```
CREATE TABLE ORDERS (  
    ORDER_ID     INT                NOT NULL,  
    ORDER_DETAIL VARCHAR (20)       NOT NULL,  
    PRIMARY KEY  (ORDER_ID)  
);
```

Finally, create a third table storing just CUST\_ID and ORDER\_ID to keep track of all the orders for a customer:

```
CREATE TABLE CUSTMERORDERS (  
    CUST_ID      INT                NOT NULL,  
    ORDER_ID     INT                NOT NULL,  
    SALE_DATE    DATETIME,  
    PRIMARY KEY  (CUST_ID, ORDER_ID)  
);
```