
Glossary: Unit 18 Database Design

Term	Definition
Data Model	The initial identification of entities, attributes, keys and relationships between entities that leads to an Entity Relationship Diagram.
Design and Analysis Notes	There should be designs of the user interface, screen and printed reports and test plans. Notes should be produced to explain how the initial data has been normalised to 3rd Normal Form. A correct Entity Relationship Diagram should also be included.
Evaluation	Refers back to the initial specification and states to what extent these have been achieved. Gives some suggestions as to how the database could be enhanced or what its weaknesses were and how they could be improved.
Given Specification	What the user wants. This should be referred back to during the evaluation of the database.
Normalisation	The process used to design a database in the most efficient way. There are three stages or rules to be applied known as First, Second and Third Normal Form.
Relational Database	A database consisting of several tables that are related to each other by means of common fields.
Technical Documentation	Records the design and development of the database. It is intended for specialists who may need to refer to it when any changes or enhancements are to be made to the database.
Testing	Testing should include details of test data, expected results, and actual results with evidence (printouts or screen shots) and corrective actions taken as a result of testing.
User Documentation	This is aimed at the end user of the database. You cannot assume they know anything about databases. It should explain clearly and simply what the application does and how to use it, using plenty of screenshots to illustrate the text.