

# Database table design

## Single table vs. multiple tables

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- Why does any nontrivial relational database have many tables?
  - E-R model design: multiple constructs on ERD will be mapped to multiple tables.
  - This slides will give you a less formal, but more intuitive explanation.

# Good things for single table design!

- We would like to consider to organize all information into one single flat table.
- The good things are obvious for such a single table design:
  - Simple and straightforward: one for all.
  - Everything can be found within one table.
    - You can issue simple select command to retrieve almost all information you need based on this one big single table.
    - Of course, it can be easily done, because you do not need to look at another table.
    - So, single table design simplifies query answering.