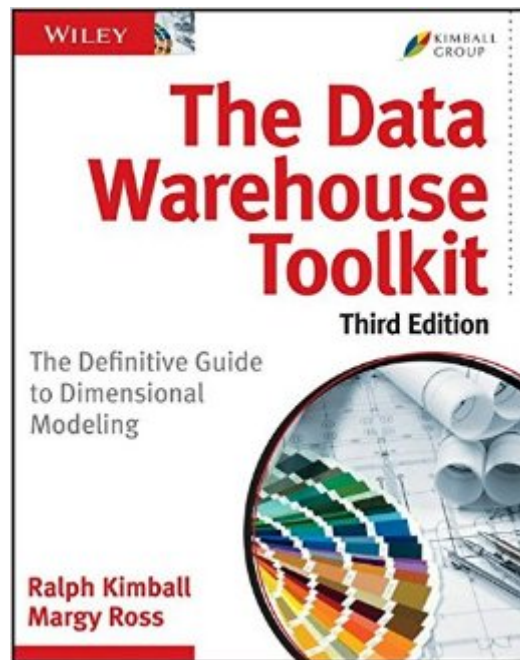# The Data Warehouse Toolkit: The Definitive Guide To Dimensional Modeling

Synopsis

Updated new edition of Ralph Kimball's groundbreaking book on dimensional modeling for data warehousing and business intelligence! The first edition of Ralph Kimball's The Data Warehouse ToolkitÂ introduced the industry to dimensional modeling, and now his books are considered the most authoritative guides in this space. This new third edition is a complete library of updated dimensional modeling techniques, the most comprehensive collection ever. It covers new and enhanced star schema dimensional modeling patterns, adds two new chapters on ETL techniques, includes new and expanded business matrices for 12 case studies, and more. Authored by Ralph Kimball and Margy Ross, known worldwide as educators, consultants, and influential thought leaders in data warehousing and business intelligence Begins with fundamental design recommendations and progresses through increasingly complex scenarios Presents unique modeling techniques for business applications such as inventory management, procurement, invoicing, accounting, customer relationship management, big data analytics, and more Draws real-world case studies from a variety of industries, including retail sales, financial services, telecommunications, education, health care, insurance, e-commerce, and more Design dimensional databases that are easy to understand and provide fast query response withÂ The Data Warehouse Toolkit: The Definitive Guide to Dimensional Modeling, 3rd Edition.

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Customer Reviews

This is an excellent book for both the beginner and the experienced data warehousing professional. Kimball and Ross do a stellar job of explaining the ins and outs of star schema design, which can be

quite complex at times. I love their approach, which involves providing examples of business processes and then taking the reader through the thought process of designing star schemas around them. I highly recommend this book to anybody wishing to enter (or who has already entered) the BI industry.

I have been delivering data warehousing solutions with the kimball methodology for over 10 years. This version of the book deals with more of the not so perfect world issues we have to deal with. It adds to the design choices available to architects to use.the old books had more of an assumption that businesses will make changes to accommodate the simple modeling processes and many wont. I just hope the ETL book gets a more realistic rewrite soon as well.

This third edition is greatly expanded from the already excellent second edition of this book. Kimball and Ross apply their vast experience as consultants (who actually deliver) and as educators to this book, providing a reference that is up-to-date, relevant, and most of all that is practical in its application of the principles to real world designs and projects. Practitioners following Kimball methods enjoy a very high success rate.One of the hallmarks of Kimball Group books is the emphasis on business perspective and successful implementation. The underlying theories are always clearly presented and accessible to the reader, yet the material is framed in the context of delivering real results for real clients. This skillful blend of theory and reality is refreshing and most useful to those who have to deliver.Perusing the Table of Contents, one finds treatment of many topics in the context of specific industries. Do not make the mistake of assuming these chapters apply only to the specific industries mentioned; instead realize that the industries are used as examples to clarify and amplify the presentation of the underlying design principles. The underlying principles are clearly presented and it is easy to imagine how they apply to other industries. Several other chapters address broader issues, both technical and on the business side. The entire book is up to date with current practice and includes clear discussion of newer topics such as additional Slowly Changing Dimension (SCD) types, and big data, among numerous others.This book is an excellent resource for those tasked with designing, or managing the design, of quality dimensional data models for real projects with real deadlines. Kimball and Ross deliver, and so does this latest edition.

This is one of the best technical books I've read on any subject. The author doesn't waste any time on tedious introductions, but jumps right into the meat of the topic, which is something I appreciate.

The book spends a reasonable amount of time on theory, then dives into a bunch of case studies showing how to apply the theory to common scenarios. This is good instructional technique.The authors are opinionated, but in a good way. They express views on how things ought to be done, based on long experience, and this helps moves the novice along the learning curve. I've seen a few critiques in other reviews that the authors are repetitive or make a big deal out of obvious things. This actually is good instructional technique; if you want to shape the behavior of a student, you need to repeat things over and over, because no one gets it the first time. As for what is obvious or not, that varies among students. Even when a practice is obvious to a particular student, it doesn't mean that he will actually conform to that practice in real life. People are often lazy and undisciplined, and don't do the things they were taught in kindergarten. It never hurts to reinforce the obvious.

This book is great I have found it very helpful in many areas.A seminal piece of work, the old versions are good too but this new version has chapters on big data for the practically minded (aka no hype) and all the familiar studies against different subject areas / industries.A must for anyone serious about building or running a successful data warehouse that is understandable by the business.

Kimball's seminal text about data warehousing was always a strong read, and third time's a charm for this book. Anyone who is even remotely acquainted with data warehousing will find something of interest, and serious data warehouse practitioners should take careful note of Kimball's recommendations.I've seen a lot of BI projects before. The ones that succeed followed Kimball's methodology. The ones that failed didn't.

I'm the "tech guy" for a startup -- we need something done/built, but don't have anyone who knows how to do it? Yep, that means I'll be doing it...Knowing *nothing* about dimensional modeling, I was asked to lead the team that's now building our data warehouse. This book (described as "the book on EDW" by the one exec at the company who's done this before) didn't make me an expert or anything, but it provided a solid foundation of the high-level concepts and some of the major low-level issues that only come up when you're actually trying to build and maintain a data warehouse.Put another way, it didn't answer all my questions, but I was at least asking the right questions after going through it. (Ex: "Should we handle this as an SCD-Type 1 or -Type 2 dimension?"*, rather than "Wait, what's an SCD?")I now spend most of my day talking and thinking

about data warehouses, and I still find myself reaching for this book on a weekly basis. Take some time to read it through all the way, then keep it nearby, since it's a helpful reference guide for major concepts. (But not for any specific platform or vendor. If you want something specific to SSIS, for example, get another book. Better yet, get this one AND another book!)If you're looking for more ETL-specific information, there's another book by Ralph Kimball (and a different co-author. Joe Caserta) called "The Data Warehouse ETL Toolkit"). It's useful, but not nearly as useful as this one.*Answer: neither, and both. We actually ended up using a Type 6 approach!

The Data Warehouse Toolkit: The Definitive Guide to Dimensional Modeling The Data Warehouse Mentor: Practical Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence Insights Data Architecture: A Primer for the Data Scientist: Big Data, Data Warehouse and Data Vault The Data Warehouse Lifecycle Toolkit Kimball's Data Warehouse Toolkit Classics: 3 Volume Set Data Analytics: Practical Data Analysis and Statistical Guide to Transform and Evolve Any Business Leveraging the Power of Data Analytics, Data Science, ... (Hacking Freedom and Data Driven Book 2) Building a Scalable Data Warehouse with Data Vault 2.0 Microsoft Excel 2013 Data Analysis and Business Modeling: Data Analysis and Business Modeling (Introducing) HTML & XHTML: The Definitive Guide: The Definitive Guide (Definitive Guides) Microsoft Log Parser Toolkit: A Complete Toolkit for Microsoft's Undocumented Log Analysis Tool Mastering Data Warehouse Aggregates: Solutions for Star Schema Performance Big Data For Beginners: Understanding SMART Big Data, Data Mining & Data Analytics For improved Business Performance, Life Decisions & More! The Data Revolution: Big Data, Open Data, Data Infrastructures and Their Consequences Interpretation of Three-Dimensional Seismic Data, 7th Edition Discovering Knowledge in Data: An Introduction to Data Mining (Wiley Series on Methods and Applications in Data Mining) Big Data, MapReduce, Hadoop, and Spark with Python: Master Big Data Analytics and Data Wrangling with MapReduce Fundamentals using Hadoop, Spark, and Python LEARN IN A DAY! DATA WAREHOUSING. Top Links and Resources for Learning Data Warehousing ONLINE and OFFLINE: Use these FREE and PAID resources to Learn Data Warehousing in little to no time Data Just Right: Introduction to Large-Scale Data & Analytics (Addison-Wesley Data and Analytics) 802.11 Wireless Networks: The Definitive Guide: The Definitive Guide Oracle SQL*Plus: The Definitive Guide (Definitive Guides)