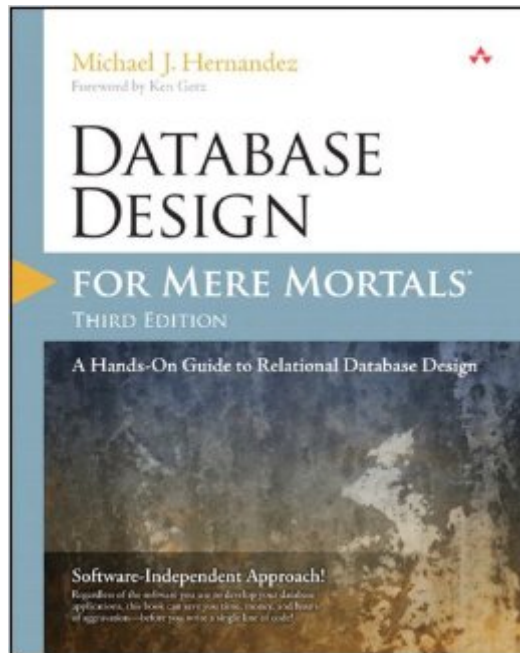# Database Design For Mere Mortals: A Hands-On Guide To Relational Database Design

Synopsis

Â   The #1 Easy, Commonsense Guide to Database Design! Michael J. Hernandezâ ™s best-selling Database Design for Mere MortalsÂ® has earned worldwide respect as the clearest, simplest way to learn relational database design. Now, heâ ™s made this hands-on, software-independent tutorial even easier, while ensuring that his design methodology is still relevant to the latest databases, applications, and best practices. Step by step, Database Design for Mere Mortals Â® , Third Edition, shows you how to design databases that are soundly structured, reliable, and flexible, even in modern web applications. Hernandez guides you through everything from database planning to defining tables, fields, keys, table relationships, business rules, and views. Youâ ™ll learn practical ways to improve data integrity, how to avoid common mistakes, and when to break the rules. Â Coverage includes Understanding database types, models, and design terminology Discovering what good database design can do for youâ ”and why bad design can make your life miserable Setting objectives for your database, and transforming those objectives into real designs Analyzing a current database so you can identify ways to improve it Establishing table structures and relationships, assigning primary keys, setting field specifications, and setting up views Ensuring the appropriate level of data integrity for each application Identifying and establishing business rules Whatever relational database systems you use, Hernandez will help you design databases that are robust and trustworthy. Never designed a database before? Settling for inadequate generic designs? Running existing databases that need improvement? Start here.

Book Information

Customer Reviews

I read this book while searching for different textbooks to use in the university database course I teach.Hernandez' method and presentation of it are distinctly different from all other books I've read on database design. The author has developed a fairly thorough approach for designing relational databases without requiring the designer to delve into the traditional mathematical jargon and occasionally difficult concepts upon which relational theory is based.Besides the easy understandability to a layman, it seems to me the biggest values in Hernandez' approach and the book is that it is well described as sequence of operations to do with short interviews of the various stakeholders in the database's intended environment. I learned to do similar interviews pretty well through years of experience but without having been taught a method.Although the whole method appears valid, a few limitations and drawbacks of the book surfaced on my first reading: * The method has so many steps it isn't likely that someone can memorize it all. * Though not surprising from the subtitle, the design method here is inextricably tied to the relational model. (I had hoped that the approach would be more generalized and then show how to produce a valid relational model from a conceptual design. The latter is the way I've been teaching up to now so Hernandez' approach loses some flexibility.) * It's laborious: The whole method is VERY heavy on filling out lengthy forms to document each table, field, view, etc. In theory this good, but it is done in a way that could easily require my students to record 50+ pages worth of forms for their main class project before they even start to implement anything.

Excellent introduction to Relational Database Design. This is a complete methodology for designing databases from start to finish. Good refresher for experienced data modelers as well.Database Design for Mere Mortals is the perfect introduction to relational database design for the novice and anyone needing a refresher. Straight forward examples and the absence of complex mathematical terms common with other books on the topic make this an easy, enjoyable and very practical read for anyone seeking to understand relational database design from an operational database perspective.Disclaimer: I have to admit being biased towards this book. I read the first edition of

Database for Mere Mortals when I was just starting my career in database application development 15 years ago and I have referred to it often over the years. Lacking a degree in Computer Science and Mathematics, I was daunted by the other books on the market at the time on Database Design Theory. However, when I came across this book, it launched my career in ways that I could not have predicted at the time.Database Design for Mere Mortals is written is a straight-forward, easy to read format. The author clearly explains complex relational concepts without the use of difficult to understand mathematical jargon. The design process that the author lays out in this book is concise, yet complete for the purpose of properly designing a well-tuned operational database based on relational database technology. To get value out of this book requires no database experience nor a background in computer science or mathematics on the part of the reader.

Database Design for Mere Mortals: A Hands-On Guide to Relational Database Design SQL Queries for Mere Mortals: A Hands-On Guide to Data Manipulation in SQL (3rd Edition) SQL Queries for Mere Mortals(R): A Hands-On Guide to Data Manipulation in SQL The Relational Database Dictionary: A Comprehensive Glossary of Relational Terms and Concepts, with Illustrative Examples NoSQL for Mere Mortals Mere Mortals: Six One-Act Comedies - Acting Edition Understanding and Treating Dissociative Identity Disorder: A Relational Approach (Relational Perspectives Book Series) Traumatic Narcissism: Relational Systems of Subjugation (Relational Perspectives Book Series) Database Design and Relational Theory: Normal Forms and All That Jazz (Theory in Practice) Understanding Relational Database Query Languages Introduction to SQL: Mastering the Relational Database Language (4th Edition) Database in Depth: Relational Theory for Practitioners Database Design Using Entity-Relationship Diagrams, Second Edition (Foundations of Database Design) Marathoning for Mortals: A Regular Person's Guide to the Joy of Running or Walking a Half-Marathon or Marathon Mythology 101: From Gods and Goddesses to Monsters and Mortals, Your Guide to Ancient Mythology (Adams 101) True Strength: My Journey from Hercules to Mere Mortal--and How Nearly Dying Saved My Life Alborada del Gracioso & Prelude et Danse du Rouet from Ma Mere l'Oye: in Full Score (Dover Music Scores) Against Equality: Queer Revolution, Not Mere Inclusion DB2/400: The New AS/400 Database: The Unabridged Guide to the New IBM Database Management System Librarian's Guide to Online Searching: Cultivating Database Skills for Research and Instruction, 4th Edition: Cultivating Database Skills for Research and Instruction