

Database definitions

Fields and attributes
are the same thing

Database	A structured collection of data
Table	A collection of related data about a set of entities (things)
Field/Attribute	An individual piece of data about an entity (a column)
Record	A set of data fields about one entity (a row)
Primary key	A field used to uniquely identify a record
Foreign key	A field in one table which is the primary key in another table. Used to link the two tables together
Data type	The style of data used to record a field (e.g. string, integer)
Flat-file database	A database with a single table
Relational database	A database with multiple tables that are linked together
Data redundancy	Data is repeated in the same table, causing inefficiency
Data inconsistency	Records about the same entity have different values for some fields, creating errors