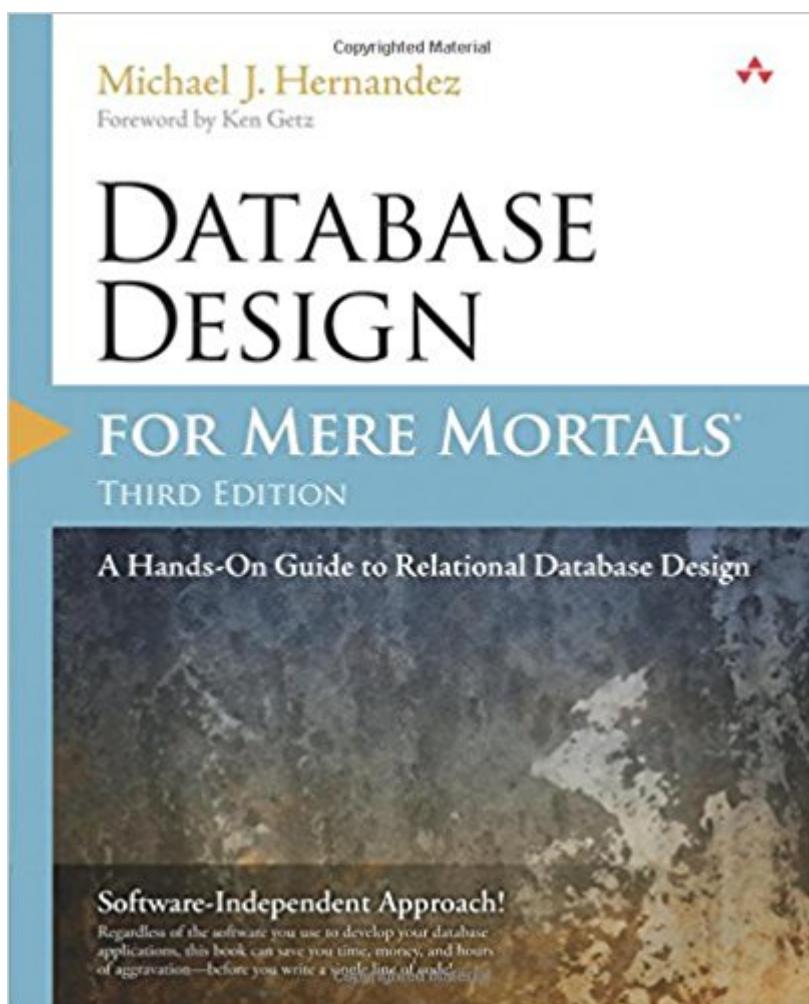


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Database Design For Mere Mortals: A Hands-On Guide To Relational Database Design (3rd Edition)



Synopsis

The #1 Easy, Commonsense Guide to Database Design! Michael J. Hernandez's best-selling *Database Design for Mere Mortals*® has earned worldwide respect as the clearest, simplest way to learn relational database design. Now, he'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*®, 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. You'll learn practical ways to improve data integrity, how to avoid common mistakes, and when to break the rules. Coverage includes Understanding database types, models, and design terminology Discovering what good database design can do for you 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

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Customer Reviews

Michael J. Hernandez, a relational database developer with more than twenty years of experience, was a program manager and product manager for Microsoft's Visual Studio group. He has been a premier instructor with organizations such as AppDev Training Co., Focal Point, Inc., and Deep Training, and was a top-rated speaker at technical conferences across the United States, Europe, and South America. With John L. Viescas, he coauthored *SQL Queries for Mere Mortals*®, Second Edition (Addison-Wesley, 2008).

I found this book very thorough at an introductory level and well written. I think someone with no database experience at all could read this and help with database design. The only criticism I have is the verbosity. Some things are repeated or can be assumed. This book does not get into normalization or any details, which I liked.

This book provides the basic concepts for good relational database design. It is structured in a very easy to read format. It clearly walks you thought design objectives and defining tables, keys, fields, table relationships, as well as business rules. Chapter 14 is an interesting chapter titled "Bad Design - What Not to Do".

Step-by-step Hernandez walks you through every detail of designing a workable relational database. It is not for the lazy, superficial reader. If you want to design a database, you follow his method line by line, step by step. I used a lot of boolean (true/false) fields in my database, and I fault him for not covering adequately boolean fields. But other than that, it is a masterful work by a very skilled and intelligent author and worth every penny. But you should be warned, there are no short-cuts and it takes a lot of work!

This book is loaded with all kinds of useful information. I have not completed reading it yet but it will definitely come in handy in the future when I'm trying to store large amounts of data from programs and I need a way to quickly organize and recall data.

Easy to understand, easy to navigate; good basic tips on designing a database. I took a class at university and this was a good refresher.

Very clear and concise for beginners. I enjoyed reading this book and I have been using it as a reference book for database projects. It has helpful examples and explains all the terminology. I have learned so much from this book. No regrets at all. I would recommend it to any one who would like to start designing awesome databases for themselves or for organizations.

I liked the format. Each chapter has a test at the end. I read it outside in the park on my lunch time. I keep it at my desk for reference. I'm a tech writer and needed more information about relational databases. After I read the book, I was more familiar with the terms and concepts, and I apply this information to my documentation.

Finally a book that brings good quality understanding of how to actually design a database well without pretentious theorems on database design. I have gained more from reading this book than I could have imagined. Use the understanding it's given me all the time. Well worth the investment!

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