

## Re: New User...create a traditional jet database or SQL Server and

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.gettingstarted/2005-07/msg00706.html>

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- *From:* "tina" <nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Mon, 18 Jul 2005 06:49:55 GMT
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no dissent, just a word (or two or three) of advice. your first post stated that you're new to Access. because Access tables in datasheet view look very much like Excel worksheets, many newbies make the potentially disastrous mistake of assuming that Access is very similar, in function and design approach, to Excel – it is NOT. Excel is basically a "flat-file" design, while Access is based on the concept of relational data modeling.

the first, crucial step in building an Access database is to learn the basics of relational data modeling. these newsgroups are full of questions from folks who decided to skip that step (or didn't know they should have taken it), and are now trying desperately to glue together a workable structure on top of a flawed foundation (i wouldn't knowingly live in a house built that way – would you?).

if you haven't already, i strongly urge you to take that all-important first step. one good book that teaches relational data modeling concepts is Database Design for Mere Mortals by Michael Hernandez. you can also find numerous links to helpful information at <http://home.bendbroadband.com/conradsystems/accessjunkie/resources.html> beginning with the Starting Out and Database Design 101 links. this link is well worth bookmarking; i'd be surprised if there is a more comprehensive list of resources in any one place on the web.

if you're already experienced in relational database design (using other software, perhaps), then the above advice is not news to you. but maybe it'll help someone else who reads this thread. :)

hth

"Cithindril" <Cithindril@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message <news:D527DCD5-CE7E-457B-8F8C-85524B90D95A@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
> Thanks for the responses. To clarify, I currently work in the Human  
> Resources department of a moderately-sized company and need to track  
> personnel qualifications and transfers for approximately 1000 employees.  
> Inter-departmental transfers are fairly frequent and all of the data is  
> presently being tracked on a set of Excel spreadsheets. The manual

Re: New User...create a traditional jet database or SQL Server and

process

- > of updating this data is quite tedious and error-prone so we're looking to
- > generate a reasonably simple relational database to manage the data.

Based

- > on your advice here and discussions elsewhere, I think we'll start with an
- > Access MDB front end / back end and look at upsizing the back end to SQL

MSDE

- > down the road if it becomes necessary.

>

- > Thanks again for the help and I'd like to hear any dissenting views if
- other

- > folks feel strongly the other way.

>

>

- > "Brendan Reynolds" wrote:

>

- >> Jet is not going to go away any time in the foreseeable future. I can't

- >> guarantee that Jet will still be around in 10 years time – but then, I

can't

- >> guarantee that SQL Server will still be around in 10 years time, either.

>>

- >> If I were starting a new Access application today, it would be an MDB.

>>

- >> BTW: You don't have to use an ADP to use SQL Server. You can use an MDB
- as a

- >> front-end to a SQL Server database via ODBC.

>>

- >> --

- >> Brendan Reynolds (MVP)

>>

- >> "Cithindril" <Cithindril@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

- >> [news:5B4690F2-661A-4A59-ABDB-41C67E7C24A7@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:5B4690F2-661A-4A59-ABDB-41C67E7C24A7@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

- >>> I'm a new Access user and have seen discussion that Microsoft will

- >>> discontinue support for traditional Jet SQL in future Access editions.

- >>> I'm

- >>> intending to create an office database to track personnel data and

don't

- >>> expect more than 3 users to have access. Would it be better to create

a

- >>> traditional Jet database or should we develop an SQL Server-based

system

- >>> with

- >>> ADP's? I'd like the setup to be effective for at least 5 to 10 years

but

- >>> would like to keep it fairly straightforward. Any advice would be

greatly

- >>> appreciated.

>>

>>

>>

- **References:**

- ◆ **[New User...create a traditional jet database or SQL Server and ADP](#)**

- ◇ From: Cithindril

- ◆ **[Re: New User...create a traditional jet database or SQL Server and ADP](#)**

- ◇ From: Brendan Reynolds

- ◆ **[Re: New User...create a traditional jet database or SQL Server and](#)**

- ◇ From: Cithindril

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