

Re: Assign Foreign key

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.tablesdbdesign/2007-03/msg00066.html>

- *From:* "Jamie Collins" <jamecollins@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 5 Mar 2007 01:07:31 -0800
-

On Mar 4, 11:31 am, "Allen Browne" <AllenBro...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

ReadingsTbl should have its own primary key field – typically an autonumber. The symbol field cannot be primary key in this table, since it can occur many times.

I think the most likely candidate is a compound (no pun intended) key of (symbol, Readdate). A key should prevent duplicate data; just adding an autonumber would allow duplicates to be created e.g.

```
INSERT INTO ReadingsTbl (symbol, Read1) VALUES ('FE'. 1.1)
;
INSERT INTO ReadingsTbl (symbol, Read1) VALUES ('FE'. 1.1)
;
INSERT INTO ReadingsTbl (symbol, Read1) VALUES ('FE'. 1.1)
;
etc
```

In summary, a foreign key is ... a field in one table that links to the primary key of another table

No, the OP has the point: *generally* it is the 'primary key' however RI can be enforced using any 'unique' constraint (a.k.a. key).

a one-to-one relation, which is rare.

Not at all. The classic example is human relationships where in marriage it is polygamy (one to many) that is the rare case and monogamy (one to one) that by far the most common across cultures.

Jamie.

Re: Assign Foreign key