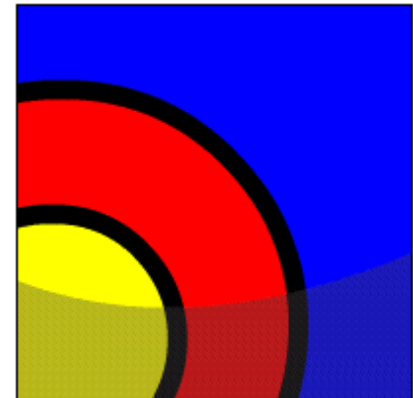


ER Diagramming Conventions

What Will I Learn?

In this lesson, you will learn to:

- Construct ER diagram components that represent entities and attributes according to diagramming conventions



Why Learn It?

People speak different languages throughout the world, but some signs are understood globally.

Guess the meaning of these signs.

International Signs





Why Learn It?

How well did you do?

Did you guess the meaning of most signs?

International Signs



Key:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Crosswind | 4. Lane for slow vehicles | 6. Low clearance |
| 2. Roundabout | 5. Stop in Brazil | 7. Mr. Yuk |
| 3. No entry for vehicles carrying more than a certain quantity of explosives or readily inflammable substances | | |

Tell Me / Show Me

It is efficient to communicate information in a way that can be easily understood by many people.

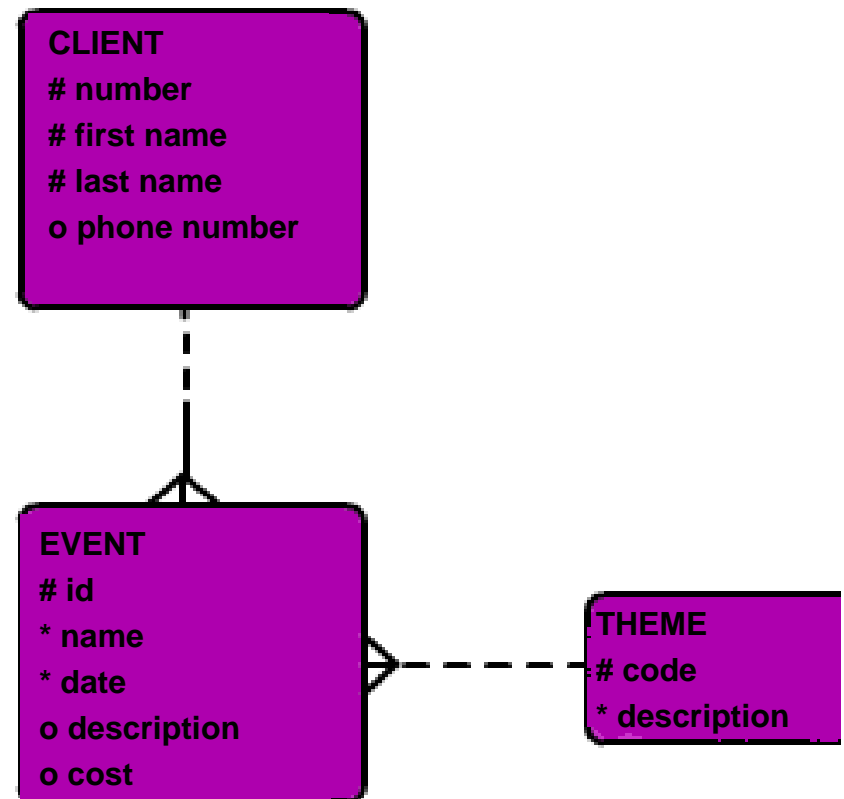
ER diagramming is like that -- you may say or write things differently because of the way you speak, your accent, and so on, but everyone draws diagrams according to the same conventions.



Tell Me / Show Me

DJs on Demand: Clients, Events, and Types

"Our client list is growing. We have a lot of repeat business -- customers who like what we've done who ask us to work for them again. We have some very busy customers who can have more than one event going on at the same time! Each partner has some specialty or expertise - - so when it's appropriate, we like to classify our events by theme to help us assign the right person (partner) to the job. An event theme can be a beach party, medieval, carnival, retro sixties or seventies, etc. We keep adding event themes as we go."



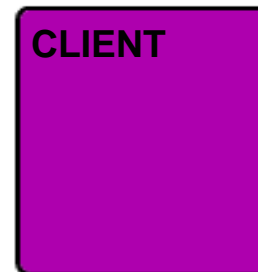
Tell Me / Show Me

ER Drawing Conventions

Entities are represented by softboxes.

Entity names go in the softboxes.

Entity names are always singular and written with all capital letters.





Tell Me / Show Me

Drawing Conventions

Attributes are listed under the entity names.

Mandatory attributes are marked with an asterisk: “*”

Optional attributes are marked with a circle: “o”

Unique identifiers are marked with a hash sign: “#”

CLIENT
number
* first name
* last name
* phone number
o email address

EVENT
id
* name
* date
* cost
* description

THEME
code
* description

Tell Me / Show Me

Drawing Conventions

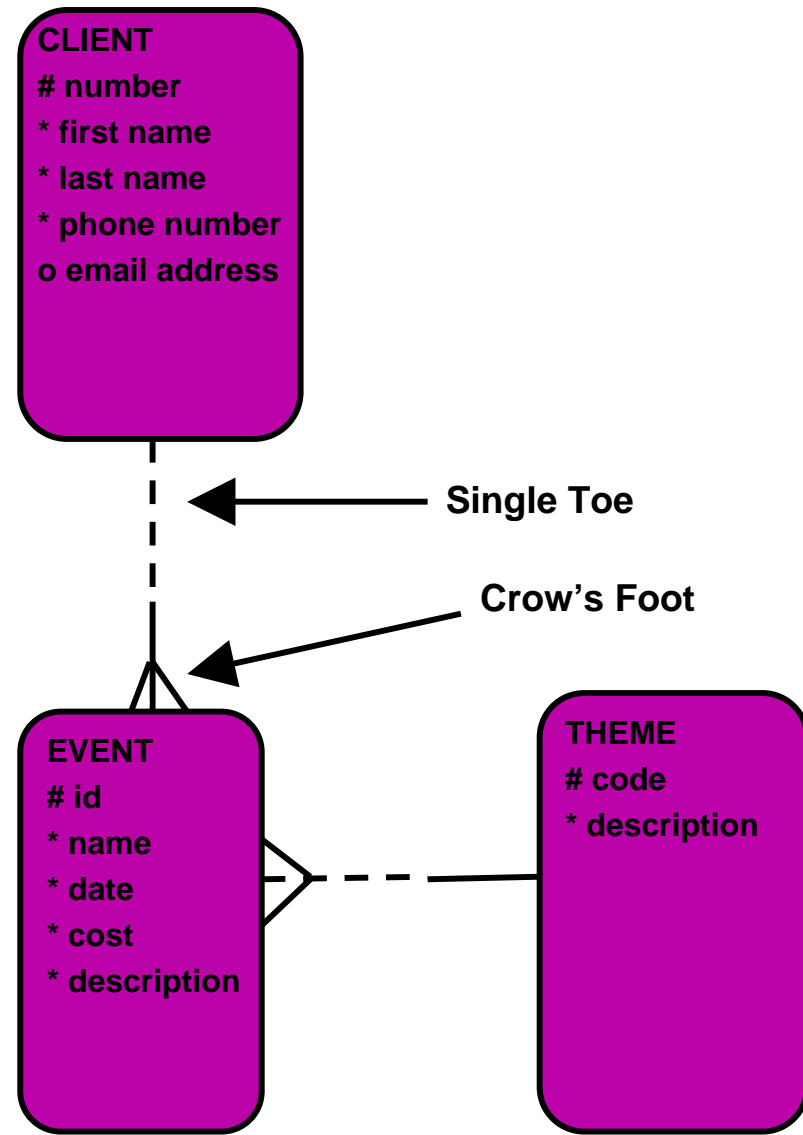
Relationships are lines that connect entities.

These lines are either solid or dashed.

These lines terminate in a “single toe”

or a “crow’s foot” at the end of each entity.

You will learn more about the meaning of relationship lines in the next lesson.



Tell Me / Show Me

Terminology

Key terms used in this lesson include:

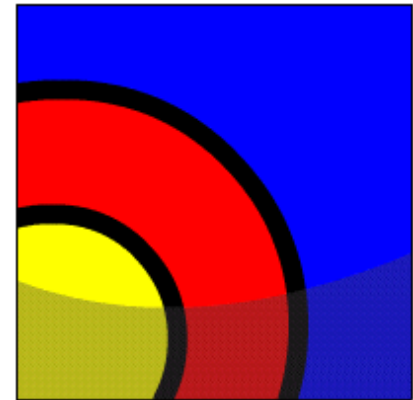
Softbox



Summary

In this lesson, you have learned how to:

- Construct ER diagram components that represent entities and attributes according to diagramming conventions



Summary

Practice Guide

The link for the lesson practice guide can be found in the course outline.

