

# Lookup key

Last Modified on 06/05/2019 4:31 pm EDT

Before beginning to link tables to one another, please make sure you have enabled the "Relational Data Tables" feature under **Administration > Program Settings**

The screenshot shows the 'Program Settings' page in the DevResults administration interface. The 'Features' section is expanded, and the 'Relational Data Tables' checkbox is checked and highlighted with an orange arrow. Other sections include Login Message, Branding, Document Storage, Fiscal Year, DevResults Internal, and Single Sign-On.

To link tables to one another, we've introduced a **Lookup Key** to the **Design** tab of each data table.

The screenshot shows the 'Schools' data table configuration page in the DevResults administration interface. The 'Design' tab is active, showing the 'Lookup Key' section highlighted with an orange border. The 'Lookup Key' section contains instructions on how to configure it and a text input field for entering the lookup key with column names in brackets. Other sections include Columns, Definition, and Permissions.

Column	Type
School ID	Unique ID
School Location	Geography: Location
Urban/Rural	Disaggregation: Urban vs Rural
# classroom	Number: Whole
School's partner NGO	Activity

The Lookup Key serves two functions:

1. It produces a unique value for each row in a table that is used to link each row of a table to a row in another table.
2. You can configure it to display information in a different table in a specific format.

To begin entering a Lookup Key, click in the text box and add a bracket. This will give you a dropdown menu of all columns in your table. You can continue typing the name of the column or click on the column name to select it.

In the following example, we've created a unique Lookup Key by combining School ID and School Location. The Lookup Key in this case is [School ID][School Location].

The screenshot shows the 'Schools' table configuration page in DevResults. The 'Columns' table is as follows:

Column	Type
School ID	Unique ID
School Location	Geography: Location
Urban/Rural	Disaggregation: Urban vs Rural
# classroom	Number: Whole
School's partner NGO	Activity

The 'Lookup Key' section contains a text input field with the instruction: 'Enter the lookup key with column names in [brackets]'. The 'Permissions' dropdown is set to 'No Access'.

If we were to link a row in this table with a row in a different table, a row where School ID is "123" and School Location is "Washington DC" will now display as "123Washington DC".

To configure the Lookup Key in a specific format, users can add spaces and special characters between column names. In the example below, we've made the Lookup Key and display more readable by adding a comma between the School ID and School Location.

Example Organization  
DevResults

Quick search...   25

Data Program Info Tools Administration Bookmarks

Home Results Data Tables Schools

## Schools

Data Design

### Columns

Column	Type
⌵ School ID	Unique ID
⌵ School Location	Geography: Location
⌵ Urban/Rural	Disaggregation: Urban vs Rural
⌵ # classroom	Number: Whole
⌵ School's partner NGO	Activity

### Definition

Table Name

### Linked Indicators

This data table is not linked to any indicators.

### Lookup Key

Configure how rows from this table are shown in other tables.  
Lookup key is required for this table to be referenced by other tables and must produce a unique value for each row in the table. [Learn more](#)

### Permissions

Define what access partner users have to this table

No Access

DevResults

Created by Leslie Sage (15 Aug 2016)

NOTE: If a Lookup Key cannot produce a unique values for all rows, you will receive an error message asking you to add additional columns to the Key until each value is unique. Similarly, if data is being added to the table that will render the Lookup Key not unique, you will be prompted to fix the duplicate data.

You can now use the Lookup Key to [Link Data Tables](#) .

Didn't answer your question? Please email us at [help@devresults.com](mailto:help@devresults.com) .

---

## Related Articles

---