



1

















Numbers that Aren't Numbers	Dates/Times that Aren't Dates/Times	Texts that Aren't (Really Text
Social Security / Insurance Numbers	Birthdays	Format embedded values
/ehicle Identification Numbers	Intervals	???
elephone Numbers		
Account Numbers		

Some Additional NTANs

Numbers that Aren't Numbers	Dates/Times that Aren't Dates/Times	Texts that Aren't (Really) Text	
Social Security Numbers	Birthdays	Format embedded values	
Vehicle Identification Numbers	Intervals	???	
Telephone Numbers	MS SQL Server Timestamps		_
Account Numbers	Lengths of time		
ZIPCodes	Days		
UPC/GTIN/EAN/Barcodes	Chris Date		
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Avoid it

- 1. Use a numeric-ish datatype when there's math involved.
- 2. Do your research
- 3. If it's externally managed data, its format or composition could change at any time. Anticipate that.
- 4. Anticipate leading zeros.
- 5. Anticipate significant formatting, characters & other tricks.

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GUID

A globally unique identifier or GUID ... is a unique reference number used as an identifier in computer software. The term GUID also is used for Microsoft's implementation of the Universally Unique Identifier (UUID) standard.

The value of a GUID is represented as a 32-character hexadecimal string, such as $\{21EC_{2020}, 3AEA, 1069, A2DD, 08002B_{303}09D\}$, and is usually stored as a 128-bit integer. The total number of unique keys is 2^{128} or 3.4×10^{38} — roughly 2 trillion per cubic millimeter of the entire volume of the Earth. This number is so large that the probability of the same number being generated twice is extremely small.

Wikipedia contributors, "Globally unique identifier," Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Globally_unique_identifier&oldid=415700895</u> (accessed March 7, 2011).

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23































