Website Hosting - Feature #775

Database Data Types for ActiveRecord with Ruby on Rails

03/12/2016 10:02 PM - Daniel Curtis

Status:	Closed		**Start date:**	03/12/2016
Priority:	Normal		**Due date:**	
Assignee:	Daniel Curtis		**% Done:**	100%
Category:			**Estimated time:**	0.10 hour
Target version:	Ruby		**Spent time:**	0.50 hour

Description

There are many different types of data types used for database tables with Ruby on Rails, each different database backend having their own data types. This is just a simple list of generic data types used with ActiveRecord with Ruby on Rails.

:string

- Limited to 255 characters (depending on DBMS)
- Use for short text fields (names, emails, etc)

:text

- Unlimited length (depending on DBMS)
- Use for comments, blog posts, etc. General rule of thumb: if it's captured via textarea, use Text. For input using textfields, use string.

:integer

- Whole numbers

:float

- Decimal numbers stored with floating point precision
- Precision is fixed, which can be problematic for some calculations; generally no good for math operations due to inaccurate rounding.

:decimal

- Decimal numbers stored with precision that varies according to what is needed by your calculations; use these for math that needs to be accurate
- See this post for examples and an in-depth explanation on the differences between floats and decimals.

:boolean

- Use to store true/false attributes (i.e. things that only have two states, like on/off)

:binary

- Use to store images, movies, and other files in their original, raw format in chunks of data called blobs

:date

- Stores only a date (year, month, day)

:time

- Stores only a time (hours, minutes, seconds)

:datetime

- Stores both date and time

:timestamp

- Stores both date and time

Resources

- http://stackoverflow.com/questions/11889048/is-there-documentation-for-the-rails-column-types
- http://blog.ifyouseewendy.com/blog/2015/08/10/data-types-in-rails/
- http://stackoverflow.com/questions/17918117/rails-4-list-of-available-datatypes

History

#1 - 03/12/2016 10:04 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

- Status changed from New to Resolved

- % Done changed from 0 to 100

#2 - 04/09/2016 10:24 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

- Status changed from Resolved to Closed

#3 - 04/09/2016 10:25 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated