DEFINE MANY-TO-MANY TABLE RELATIONSHIPS

There are several different ways to define Table Relationships. Relationships can be defined in the Database window or in Design view. The last method provides more control over the Table Relationships. It also displays a quick snapshot of all the relationships for the database. A Many-to-Many Relationship is really two one-to-many relationships tied together through a third table.

Create the Primary Key
(This step may have been completed if the lesson on Defining One-to-Many Table Relationships was completed earlier.)
¶ Open Access Training: Database2 from the area where it was stored.
¶ In the Navigation Pane, right-click the Productions table.
¶ Click Design View.
¶ Once the table is in Design View, click the Row Selector for the ID Show field.
¶ Click the Primary Key button in the Tools Group, if necessary.

¶ Click the View button to open the table in Datasheet View.

Open the Relationships Window
(This step may have been completed if the lesson on Defining One-to-Many Table Relationships was completed earlier.)
¶ Click the Database Tools Tab.
¶ In the Show/Hide Group, click the Relationships button.
¶ The Representatives and Clients tables should appear in the grid with a join line between them.
¶ To select the rest of the tables in the database:
    ¶ Click the Relationship Tools Design Tab, if necessary.
    ¶ Click the Show Tables button in the Relationships Group.

¶ The Show Tables dialog box will appear. It will contain a list of all the tables in the database.
¶ Click the Billable Items table, hold down the Ctrl key and select the Invoices, Productions, Spot Plays, and Time Bands tables.
¶ Click the Add button to add them to the Design Grid.
¶ This will add all the tables to the relationships window.
¶ Click the Close button to close the Show Table dialog box.
Establish the Many-to-Many Table Relationship

- Drag the box for the Invoices, SpotPlay, and Billable items to a suitable location in the Relationships window so that they are grouped together, placing the Billable items box below or between the other two boxes.
- In the SpotPlay table box, click and hold IDSpot.
- Drag the pointer over PlayID in the Billable items box.
- Release the mouse button.
- The Edit Relationships dialog box will appear (see illustration below).

- In the Edit Relationships dialog box, click Enforce Referential Integrity.
- Click the Create button.
- In the Invoices table box, click and hold IDInvoice.
- Drag the pointer over InvoiceID in the Billable items box.
- Release the mouse button.
- In the Edit Relationships dialog box, click Enforce Referential Integrity.
- Click the Create button.
- This will create the Many-to-Many relationship for the Invoices and the SpotPlay tables.
- Two one-to-many relationships are created (see illustration on next page).
- The middle table is used to establish the many-to-many relationship.