

Popular database software

Microsoft Access – <http://www.microsoft.com/> (pc only)

Access is part of the Microsoft Office suite. You can get Office (and other software) cheap at <http://www.compumentor.org/>

Filemaker Pro – <http://www.filemaker.com> (Macintosh or pc)

Ebase (free database software designed for non-profits) – <http://www.ebase.org> (Macintosh or pc)

eTapestry – <http://www.etapestry.com>

eTapestry is an online database system that offers a discount for non-profit organizations. eTapestry can manage prospects, volunteers, donations and board members as well as basic contact and membership information.

Database tutorials and support resources

Coyote Communications – <http://www.coyotecom.com/database/index.html>

This is a very good overview of database design and set up aimed at non-profit organizations.

TechSoup – <http://www.techsoup.org>

TechSoup has an extensive section on databases, including database planning and tutorials on database design.

CompuMentor Databases – <http://www.compumentor.org/cm/resources/articles/107.html>

CompuMentor's Resource Center has a lot of useful information on designing databases for nonprofit organizations.

Ebase Technical Support – <http://www.ebase.org/help/help.htm>

Ebase has an extensive online support library as well as access to a large community of Ebase users.

Another Ebase primer – http://www.genie.org/op_ebase.htm

Other Tips

Your local bookstore – probably has books on Access and FileMaker.

The "Dummies" books tend to be very good, especially for beginners.