



## DOS & DON'TS FOR DATA PORTFOLIOS

### Avoid redundancies

Define your business objects as mutually exclusive. There should not be any overlaps. The uniqueness can be easily checked: Think about the elements on the next hierarchical level. If such elements can be defined without redundancies in those levels, you have found the ideal cut for level 1.

### Long-term stability

The identified data elements and their structure remain stable over time. They are independent of process or organizational changes. Only serious changes - for example the development of completely new business models - lead to adjustments.

### Find the right level of detail

Too many hierarchies increase complexity and the use and evaluation of your data portfolio become unnecessarily complicated. Two levels are usually more than sufficient.

### Avoid a rather technical perspective

Good business objects describe the semantics of the entities in the business, independently of consideration of any information systems (e.g. storage, technology, etc).

### Top-down approach with bottom-up cross-check

Use your capability map or the key value streams of your organisation as a starting point. Do a cross-check starting from the application components and their most important data elements.

### Involve business stakeholders

The initiative is often IT-driven. Make sure to reconcile the data catalogue with your colleagues in the business departments. In the end, your data needs to support your business use cases.

### Don't reinvent the wheel

Many applications (e.g. SAP) will already have existing data object models. Use these as a starting point for your individual data portfolio.



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