

Architecture Building Blocks (ABBs) in TOGAF

Introduction

Architecture Building Blocks (ABBs) are high-level, logical components that describe the essential capabilities and services an organization requires to meet its business objectives. ABBs are abstract and technology-neutral, focusing on what needs to be achieved rather than how it will be implemented.

Characteristics of ABBs:

- **Technology-Independent:** ABBs define the capability without specifying the implementation details (e.g., "Data Storage Capability" vs. "SQL Database").
- **Reusability:** ABBs can be reused across multiple projects, reducing duplication and promoting consistency.
- **Alignment with Business Needs:** ABBs are directly tied to business requirements, ensuring they support strategic goals.
- **Modularity:** ABBs are designed to fit together with other building blocks to form complete solutions.

Structure of an ABB

An ABB typically contains the following attributes:

Attribute	Description
Name	A clear, concise name (e.g., "User Authentication").
Purpose	A description of what the ABB does (e.g., "Provides secure access to applications").
Capabilities	Key functions are provided by the ABB.

Attribute	Description
Relationships	Interactions with other ABBs (e.g., dependencies on Data Storage ABB).
Constraints	Business or regulatory constraints affecting the ABB.
Requirements	High-level requirements the ABB must fulfill.
Rationale	Justification for its inclusion in the architecture.

Approach

we can use left-to-right approach such as starting from foundation Architecture to Common System Architecture to Industry Specific Architecture.

Example : Starting with basic LMS system to Industry specific or College or University specific LMS and so on.

