
Using column domain

If you create [ERD](#) for serious database development purpose, you may need to specify a lot of details for entity columns in addition to their names. For example, the type, length, default value, etc.

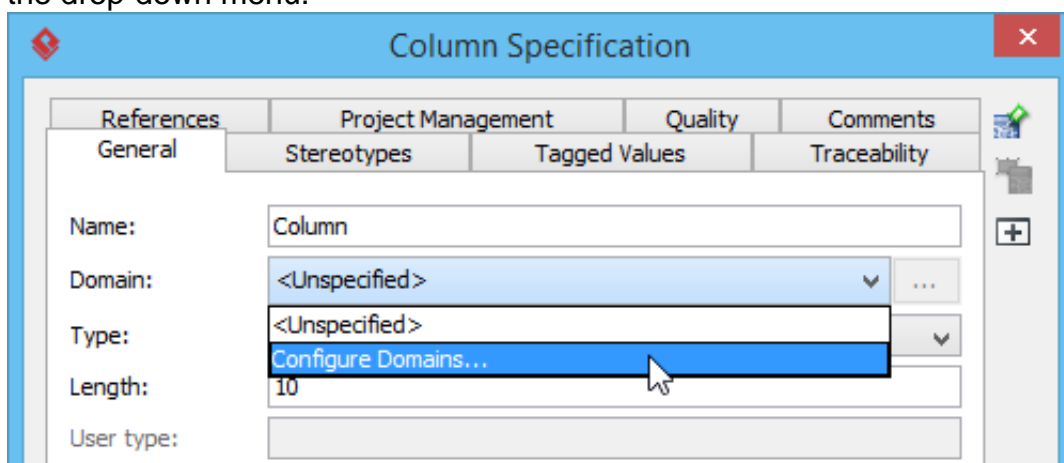
To specify these properties can be a time consuming task. Visual Paradigm supports the use of column domain in re-using specification details between columns.

Each domain is a named set of property values that can be re-used by a column. You can create a domain for commonly entered values such as type, length and default value, and re-use these setting in other columns when needed. This saves you time in creating similar columns as well as to keep your data model consistent.

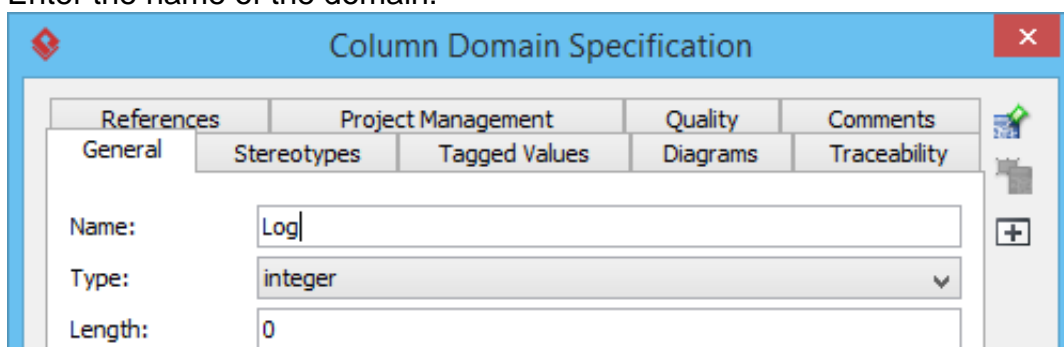
Defining a column domain

You can define a column domain from the **Column Specification** window of any column. To define a column domain:

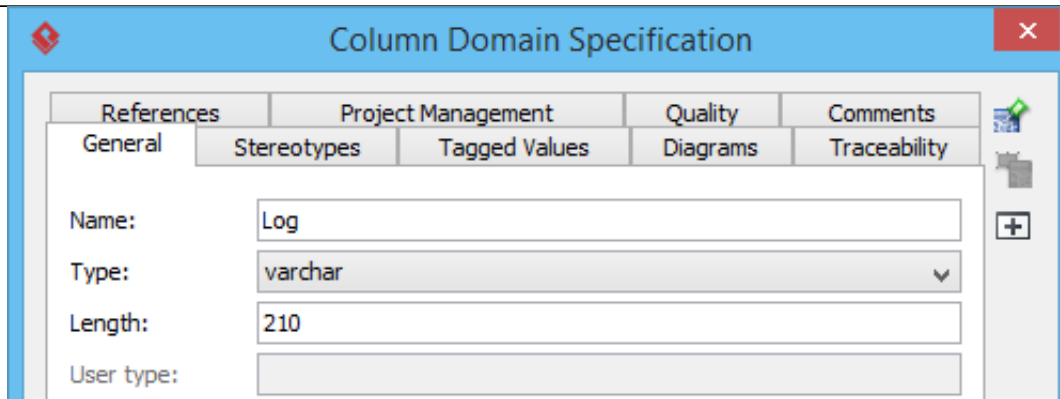
1. Right click on any column and select **Open Specification...** from the popup menu.
2. Click on the drop down menu of the **Domain** row and select **Configure Domains...** from the drop-down menu.



3. In the **Configure Column Domains** window, click **Add...**
4. Enter the name of the domain.



5. Specify the properties. The properties you specified will be re-used by columns that use this domain.

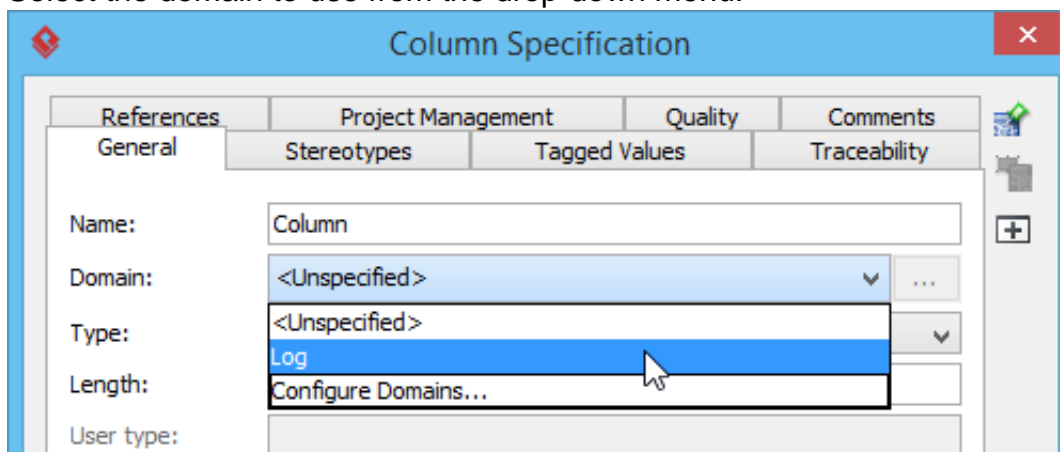


6. Click **OK** to confirm.

Using a column domain

To use a column domain:

1. Open the specification of the column to which you want use a domain. You can open column specification by right clicking on that column and selecting **Open Specification...** from the popup menu.
2. Click on the drop down menu of the **Domain** row.
3. Select the domain to use from the drop-down menu.



4. Click **OK** to confirm. By doing so the column will be updated to apply the property values specified in the domain.