



## Questions to Ask About Business Rules

Analyzing a business rule involves a lot more than just writing the rule down or developing a model to represent it. Remember to use all the traditional question words to better understand each rule: What, how, where, when, who, and why. Here's an example to get you started thinking about these rule properties.

WHAT?

### What is the rule?

When a customer attempts to purchase an age-restricted item, a cashier must request proof of age and record the customer's date of birth.

HOW?

### How is the rule checked?

The customer's age is calculated by comparing their date of birth to today's date. Their age is then compared to the minimum age required for the restricted item to determine if the customer may purchase that item.

WHERE?

### Where is the rule enforced?

- At the checkout stand for in-store purchases.
- At the pickup point for pickup purchases.

WHEN?

### When is the rule enforced?

- For in-store purchases, the rule is applied when the item is scanned at a cash register.
- For pickup purchases, the rule is applied when a customer arrives to pick up their purchase, before the purchase is transferred to the customer.

WHO?

### Who is involved with the rule?

A customer and a cashier.

WHY?

### Why do we have the rule?

If we sell an item to an underage customer, we are in violation of state and/or federal laws. We could potentially lose our license to sell certain types of age-restricted items like aerosol paint or bladed items.