

## Simple Objects

A simple object has no multi-value attributes and no object attributes.

We illustrate the transformation of a simple object into a relation. Now, when a simple object has no multi-value attributes and no object attributes, consequently, they can be represented by a single relation in the database.

The **figure** shows example of a simple object, EQUIPMENT, which can be represented by a single relation, as shown in figure. Each attribute of the object is defined as an attribute of the relation, and the identifying attribute, EquipmentNumber, becomes the key attribute of the relation, denoted by under-lining EquipmentNumber.

The general transformation of simple objects is illustrated. The attribute that identifies the OBJECT instances becomes the key of relation R1. Because a key is an attribute that uniquely identifies a row of a table, only unique identifiers—those with the ID underlined—can be transformed into keys. If there is no unique identifier in the object, then one must be created, by either creating a new attribute that is a unique identifier or combining the existing attributes to form a unique identifier.