

# Parsing Simple Flat Files

This page explains the **Flat File Adapter** in Bridge context. If you were looking for the same information regarding the **PAS Designer**, refer to **Flat File Adapter** in the Designer guide.

The most simple flat file type is a position delimited file without header or trailing lines. The explanations in this chapter refer to the following example:

### Example File (Builder project Add-ons/FlatFiles):

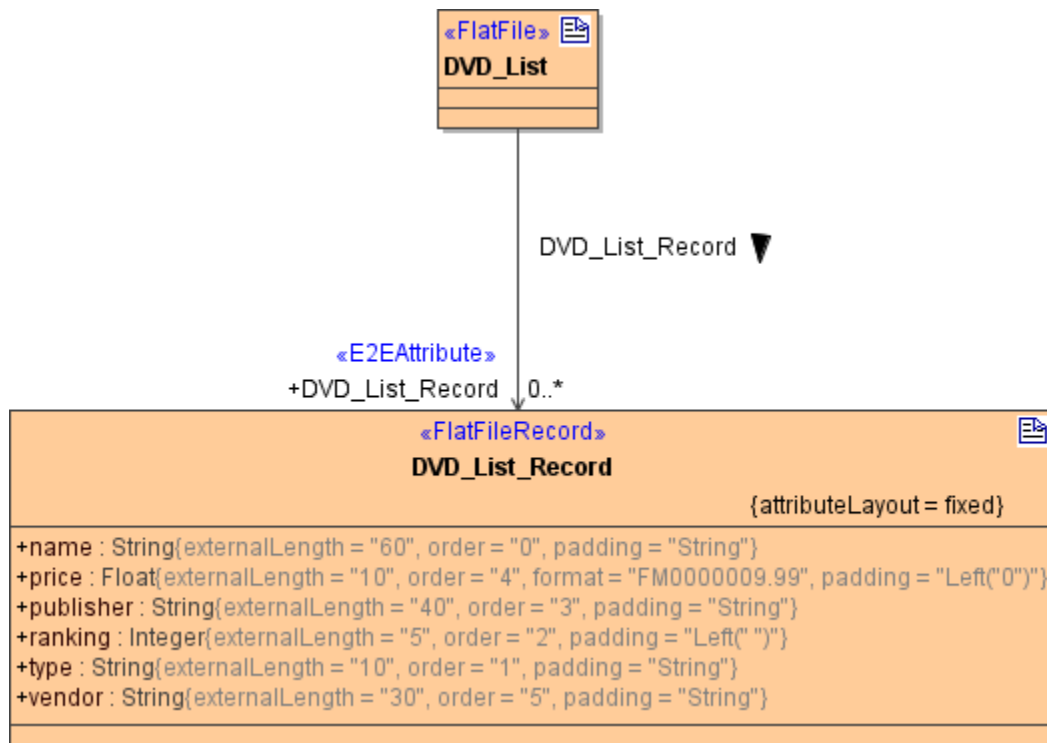


Figure: Simple Fixed Position Flat File

[illegible]

The class diagram describing this file looks like:

Figure: Class Definition For Simple Fixed Position File



To parse or compose this fixed position file, the file is modeled as a `<<FlatFile>>` class with an association of a `<<FlatFileRecord>>` class. You can name these classes as you like. In this example, the classes were created automatically by the [E2E Flat File Definition Importer](#) from a flat file definition file. The class names were applied during the import and we called the classes after the file resource **DVD\_List** respectively **DVD\_List\_Record**.

All records have the same fields with a given fixed position length. Numeric values can be represented by attributes having an according type (**Integer** or **Float**). The parsing and composing of such values can be influence via tagged value **format**. Leading zeros and trailing spaces can be created/removed while composing/parsing by the tagged value **padding**. Note that this is works only for fixed position files.

**Related Pages:**

- Defining a Flat File Adapter Action
- Defining a Simple Flat File Record
- Flat File Adapter Parsing Process
- Importing Flat File Definitions