



Borrowed Patterns & Source Notes

What was adapted from the Northstar reference system — and what remains deliberately separate

CDMP DMBOK Mastery Lab • Applied Learning Companion Program

Reference reviewed

The user-provided reference folder was reviewed as a design source:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-81WnBwaZviRP_8uQm2bCDSW__PmBEEU. The Applied Laboratory does not copy Northstar as the CDMP company. Meridian Commerce Group is a separate fictional enterprise so the CDMP training system can evolve independently and remain DMBOK-centered.

Patterns intentionally borrowed

Pattern	How Meridian adapts it
One-company continuity	One fictional enterprise persists across all chapters so later work reuses earlier data, decisions and defects.
Business first	Every dataset is tied to a business process and use, preventing “table-first” thinking.
Technology supports learning	Tools are selected because they make a Data Management concept observable, not because they are fashionable.
Stable identifiers	Systems, datasets, defects, incidents and decisions use stable IDs so lineage/evidence can cross labs.
Synthetic data by default	Safe fictional data supports repeatable defects and prevents privacy/security problems.
Defect injection	Specific, known defects create diagnostic labs and before/after evidence.
Evidence discipline	A learner produces inspectable artifacts rather than claiming a task was performed.
Defined target depth	Each technology has a “learn this / stop here” boundary.
Block structure	Training uses purpose → what to learn → do → save/prove → done when.
Independent completion rule	A block is not mastered until the learner can explain/rebuild without following the tutorial line by line.
Scope boundaries	Explicit exclusions prevent the learning plan from becoming an unrelated DBA/data-engineering/cloud bootcamp.

What is deliberately different

- The controlling content authority is the DMBOK chapter being studied, not a career roadmap.

- The applied curriculum follows Chapters 1–17 and CDMP learning needs rather than Northstar phase numbering.
- Meridian starts intentionally imperfect so the DMBOK Knowledge Areas can progressively improve one estate.
- Technology training is a separate academy with prerequisite gates rather than being embedded as unexplained commands inside labs.
- Every chapter lab ends with a DMBOK Debrief and retrieval/transfer check.
- Individual chapter labs are not prewritten from summaries; they are finalized only after reading the full chapter source.

External technology sources policy

Official vendor/project documentation may be used for software installation, syntax and feature behavior because those details change over time. Those sources support the technology layer only. They do not define DAMA concepts or CDMP exam meaning. When software guidance conflicts with a later product version, current official documentation should be rechecked before updating the lab.