**SQL Introduction – 2**

**DDL (Data Definition Language)**

SQL CREATE INDEX Statement

The CREATE INDEX statement is used to create indexes in tables.

Indexes allow the database application to find data fast; without reading the whole table.

Indexes

An index can be created in a table to find data more quickly and efficiently.

The users cannot see the indexes, they are just used to speed up searches/queries.

**Note:** Updating a table with indexes takes more time than updating a table without (because the indexes also need an update). So you should only create indexes on columns (and tables) that will be frequently searched against.

SQL CREATE INDEX Syntax

Creates an index on a table. Duplicate values are allowed:

CREATE INDEX index\_name  
ON table\_name (column\_name)

SQL CREATE UNIQUE INDEX Syntax

Creates a unique index on a table. Duplicate values are not allowed:

CREATE UNIQUE INDEX index\_name  
ON table\_name (column\_name)

CREATE INDEX Example

The SQL statement below creates an index named "PIndex" on the "LastName" column in the "Persons" table:

CREATE INDEX PIndex  
ON Persons (LastName)

If you want to create an index on a combination of columns, you can list the column names within the parentheses, separated by commas:

CREATE INDEX PIndex  
ON Persons (LastName, FirstName)

The DROP INDEX Statement

The DROP INDEX statement is used to delete an index in a table.

DROP INDEX Syntax for MySQL:

ALTER TABLE table\_name DROP INDEX index\_name

The DROP TABLE Statement

The DROP TABLE statement is used to delete a table.

DROP TABLE table\_name

The DROP DATABASE Statement

The DROP DATABASE statement is used to delete a database.

DROP DATABASE database\_name

The TRUNCATE TABLE Statement

What if we only want to delete the data inside the table, and not the table itself?

Then, use the TRUNCATE TABLE statement:

TRUNCATE TABLE table\_name

The ALTER TABLE Statement

The ALTER TABLE statement is used to add, delete, or modify columns in an existing table.

SQL ALTER TABLE Syntax

To add a column in a table, use the following syntax:

ALTER TABLE table\_name  
ADD column\_name datatype

To delete a column in a table, use the following syntax (notice that some database systems don't allow deleting a column):

ALTER TABLE table\_name  
DROP COLUMN column\_name

To change the data type of a column in a table, use the following syntax:

**My SQL / Oracle:**

ALTER TABLE table\_name  
MODIFY COLUMN column\_name datatype

SQL ALTER TABLE Example

Look at the "Persons" table:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **P\_Id** | **LastName** | **FirstName** | **Address** | **City** |
| 1 | Hansen | Ola | Timoteivn 10 | Sandnes |
| 2 | Svendson | Tove | Borgvn 23 | Sandnes |
| 3 | Pettersen | Kari | Storgt 20 | Stavanger |

Now we want to add a column named "DateOfBirth" in the "Persons" table.

We use the following SQL statement:

ALTER TABLE Persons  
ADD DateOfBirth date

Notice that the new column, "DateOfBirth", is of type date and is going to hold a date. The data type specifies what type of data the column can hold. For a complete reference of all the data types available in MS Access, MySQL, and SQL Server, go to our complete [Data Types reference](http://www.w3schools.com/sql/sql_datatypes.asp).

The "Persons" table will now like this:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **P\_Id** | **LastName** | **FirstName** | **Address** | **City** | **DateOfBirth** |
| 1 | Hansen | Ola | Timoteivn 10 | Sandnes |  |
| 2 | Svendson | Tove | Borgvn 23 | Sandnes |  |
| 3 | Pettersen | Kari | Storgt 20 | Stavanger |  |

Change Data Type Example

Now we want to change the data type of the column named "DateOfBirth" in the "Persons" table.

We use the following SQL statement:

ALTER TABLE Persons  
MODIFY COLUMN DateOfBirth year

Notice that the "DateOfBirth" column is now of type year and is going to hold a year in a two-digit or four-digit format.

DROP COLUMN Example

Next, we want to delete the column named "DateOfBirth" in the "Persons" table.

We use the following SQL statement:

ALTER TABLE Persons  
DROP COLUMN DateOfBirth

The "Persons" table will now like this:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **P\_Id** | **LastName** | **FirstName** | **Address** | **City** |
| 1 | Hansen | Ola | Timoteivn 10 | Sandnes |
| 2 | Svendson | Tove | Borgvn 23 | Sandnes |
| 3 | Pettersen | Kari | Storgt 20 | Stavanger |

The SQL INSERT INTO Statement

The INSERT INTO statement is used to insert new records in a table.

SQL INSERT INTO Syntax

It is possible to write the INSERT INTO statement in two forms.

The first form does not specify the column names where the data will be inserted, only their values:

INSERT INTO *table\_name*  
VALUES (*value1*,*value2*,*value3*,...);

## Insert Data Only in Specified Columns

It is also possible to only insert data in specific columns.

INSERT INTO *table\_name* (*column1*,*column2*,*column3*,...)  
VALUES (*value1*,*value2*,*value3*,...);

AUTO INCREMENT a Field

Very often we would like the value of the primary key field to be created automatically every time a new record is inserted.

We would like to create an auto-increment field in a table.

Syntax for MySQL

The following SQL statement defines the "ID" column to be an auto-increment primary key field in the "Persons" table:

CREATE TABLE Persons  
(  
P\_ID int NOT NULL AUTO\_INCREMENT,  
LastName varchar(255) NOT NULL,  
FirstName varchar(255),  
Address varchar(255),  
City varchar(255),  
PRIMARY KEY (ID)  
)

MySQL uses the AUTO\_INCREMENT keyword to perform an auto-increment feature.

By default, the starting value for AUTO\_INCREMENT is 1, and it will increment by 1 for each new record.

To let the AUTO\_INCREMENT sequence start with another value, use the following SQL statement:

ALTER TABLE Persons AUTO\_INCREMENT=100

To insert a new record into the "Persons" table, we will NOT have to specify a value for the "ID" column (a unique value will be added automatically):

INSERT INTO Persons (FirstName,LastName)  
VALUES ('Lars','Monsen')

The SQL statement above would insert a new record into the "Persons" table. The "ID" column would be assigned a unique value. The "FirstName" column would be set to "Lars" and the "LastName" column would be set to "Monsen".