

Ex.No.: 5		CREATING VIEWS
Date:		

After the completion of this exercise, students will be able to do the following:

- Describe a view
- Create, alter the definition of, and drop a view
- Retrieve data through a view
- Insert, update, and delete data through a view
- Create and use an inline view

### View

A view is a logical table based on a table or another view. A view contains no data but is like a window through which data from tables can be viewed or changed. The tables on which a view is based are called base tables.

### Advantages of Views

- To restrict data access
- To make complex queries easy
- To provide data independence
- To present different views of the same data

### Classification of views

1. Simple view
2. Complex view

Feature	Simple	Complex
No. of tables	One	One or more
Contains functions	No	Yes
Contains groups of data	No	Yes
DML operations on view	Yes	Not always

### Creating a view

#### Syntax

CREATE OR REPLACE FORCE/NOFORCE VIEW view\_name AS Subquery WITH CHECK  
OPTION CONSTRAINT constraint WITH READ ONLY CONSTRAINT constraint;

**FORCE** - Creates the view regardless of whether or not the base tables exist.

**NOFORCE** - Creates the view only if the base table exist.

**WITH CHECK OPTION CONSTRAINT**-specifies that only rows accessible to the view can be inserted or updated.

**WITH READ ONLY CONSTRAINT**-ensures that no DML operations can be performed on the view.

**Example: 1 (Without using Column aliases)**

Create a view EMPVU80 that contains details of employees in department 80.

**Example 2:**

```
CREATE VIEW empvu80 AS SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary FROM employees  
WHERE department_id=80;
```

**Example: 1 (Using column aliases)**

```
CREATE VIEW salvu50  
AS SELECT employee_id, id_number, last_name NAME, salary * 12 ANN_SALARY  
FROM employees  
WHERE department_id=50;
```

**Retrieving data from a view**

**Example:**

```
SELECT * from salvu50;
```

**Modifying a view**

A view can be altered without dropping, re-creating.

**Example: (Simple view)**

Modify the EMPVU80 view by using CREATE OR REPLACE.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW empvu80 (id_number, name, sal, department_id)  
AS SELECT employee_id, first_name, last_name, salary, department_id  
FROM employees  
WHERE department_id=80;
```

**Example: (complex view)**

```
CREATE VIEW dept_sum_vu (name, minsal, maxsal, avgsal)
AS SELECT d.department_name, MIN(e.salary), MAX(e.salary), AVG(e.salary)
FROM employees e, department d
WHERE e.department_id=d.department_id
GROUP BY d.department_name;
```

**Rules for performing DML operations on view**

- Can perform operations on simple views
- Cannot remove a row if the view contains the following:
  - Group functions
  - Group By clause
  - Distinct keyword
- Cannot modify data in a view if it contains
  - Group functions
  - Group By clause
  - Distinct keyword
  - Columns contain by expressions
- Cannot add data thr' a view if it contains
  - Group functions
  - Group By clause
  - Distinct keyword
  - Columns contain by expressions
  - NOT NULL columns in the base table that are not selected by the view

**Example: (Using the WITH CHECK OPTION clause)**

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW empvu20
AS SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE department_id=20
WITH CHECK OPTION CONSTRAINT empvu20_ck;
```

**Note:** Any attempt to change the department number for any row in the view fails because it violates the WITH CHECK OPTION constraint.

**Example** – (Execute this and note the error)

```
UPDATE empvu20 SET department_id=10 WHERE employee_id=201;
```

**Denying DML operations**

Use of WITH READ ONLY option.  
Any attempt to perform a DML on any row in the view results in an oracle server error.

Try this code:

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW empvu10(employee_number, employee_name, job_title)
AS SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id
FROM employees
WHERE department_id=10
WITH READ ONLY;
```

Find the Solution for the following:

1. Create a view called EMPLOYEE\_VU based on the employee numbers, employee names and department numbers from the EMPLOYEES table. Change the heading for the employee name to EMPLOYEE.

create view Employee\_VU as  
select employee\_number, employee\_name as EMPLOYEE, department\_number from employees

2. Display the contents of the EMPLOYEES\_VU view.

select \* from Employee\_VU

3. Select the view name and text from the USER\_VIEWS data dictionary views.

select view\_name, view\_definition, from USER\_VIEWS ;

4. Using your EMPLOYEES\_VU view, enter a query to display all employees names and department.

select EMPLOYEES as employee\_number, department\_number  
from Employee\_VU ;



5. Create a view named DEPT50 that contains the employee number, employee last names and department numbers for all employees in department 50. Label the view columns EMPNO, EMPLOYEE and DEPTNO. Do not allow an employee to be reassigned to another department through the view.

create view dept50 as select employee-number as EMPNO, Employee-last  
name as EMPLOYEE, department number as DEPTNO from employees  
where dept-number = 50;

6. Display the structure and contents of the DEPT50 view.

DESCRIBE DEPT50;

select \* from DEPT50;

7. Attempt to reassign Matos to department 80.

update employees SET department-number = 80

where employee-lastname = 'Matos';

8. Create a view called SALARY\_VU based on the employee last names, department names, salaries, and salary grades for all employees. Use the Employees, DEPARTMENTS and JOB\_GRADE tables. Label the column Employee, Department, salary, and Grade respectively.

create view salary-vu as select e.employee-lastname as employee,

d.department-name as department, e.salary as salary, jg - salary.grade

as grade from employee, join

departments d on e.departmentid = d.departmentid join Job-grade jg on

e.salary between  
jg.salary low  
and jg.salary high;

Evaluation Procedure	Marks awarded
Query(5)	
Execution (5)	
Viva(5)	
Total (15)	
Faculty Signature	