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14.6.6.2 Cursor DECLARE Syntax

```
DECLARE cursor_name CURSOR FOR select_statement
```

This statement declares a cursor and associates it with a [SELECT](#) statement that retrieves the rows to be traversed by the cursor. To fetch the rows later, use a [FETCH](#) statement. The number of columns retrieved by the [SELECT](#) statement must match the number of output variables specified in the [FETCH](#) statement.

The [SELECT](#) statement cannot have an `INTO` clause.

Cursor declarations must appear before handler declarations and after variable and condition declarations.

A stored program may contain multiple cursor declarations, but each cursor declared in a given block must have a unique name. For an example, see Section 14.6.6, “Cursors”.

For information available through [SHOW](#) statements, it is possible in many cases to obtain equivalent information by using a cursor with an `INFORMATION_SCHEMA` table.