



## MariaDB: SELECT LIMIT Statement

This MariaDB tutorial explains how to use the **SELECT LIMIT statement** in MariaDB with syntax and examples.

### Description

The MariaDB SELECT LIMIT statement is used to retrieve records from one or more tables in MariaDB and limit the number of records returned based on a limit value.

### Syntax

The syntax for the SELECT LIMIT statement in MariaDB is:

```
SELECT expressions
FROM tables
[WHERE conditions]
[ORDER BY expression [ ASC | DESC ]]
LIMIT row_count;
```

### Parameters or Arguments

#### ***expressions***

The columns or calculations that you wish to retrieve.

#### ***tables***

The tables that you wish to retrieve records from. There must be at least one table listed in the FROM clause.

#### ***WHERE conditions***

Optional. The conditions that must be met for the records to be selected.

#### ***ORDER BY expression***

Optional. It is used in the SELECT LIMIT statement so that you can order the results and target those records that you wish to return.

#### ***LIMIT row\_count***

Specifies a limited number of rows in the result set to be returned based on *row\_count*. For example, LIMIT 10 would return the first 10 rows matching the SELECT criteria. This is where sort order matters so be sure to use an ORDER BY clause appropriately.

## Example - Using LIMIT keyword

Let's look at how to use a SELECT statement with a LIMIT clause in MariaDB.

For example:

```
SELECT site_id, site_name, host_name
FROM sites
WHERE site_name = 'TechOnTheNet.com'
ORDER BY site_id DESC
LIMIT 4;
```

This MariaDB SELECT LIMIT example would select the first 4 records from the *sites* table where the *site\_name* is 'TechOnTheNet.com'. Note that the results are sorted by *site\_id* in descending order so this means that the 4 largest *site\_id* values will be returned by the SELECT LIMIT statement.

If there are other records in the *sites* table that have a *site\_name* of 'TechOnTheNet.com', they will not be returned by the SELECT LIMIT statement in MariaDB.

If we wanted to select the 4 smallest *site\_id* values instead of the largest, we could change the sort order as follows:

```
SELECT site_id, site_name, host_name
FROM sites
WHERE site_name = 'TechOnTheNet.com'
ORDER BY site_id ASC
LIMIT 4;
```

Now the results would be sorted by *site\_id* in ascending order, so the first 4 smallest *site\_id* records that have a *site\_name* of 'TechOnTheNet.com' would be returned by this SELECT LIMIT statement. No other records would be returned by this query.

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