



Database Connectivity in Python (SQLite3 & PyMySQL)

◆ Introduction

Database connectivity allows Python applications to **store, manage, and retrieve data** efficiently using structured query language (SQL).

Python provides powerful libraries like **SQLite3** and **PyMySQL** that make database operations simple and consistent, regardless of whether you're working with a **local file-based database** (SQLite) or a **remote server-based database** (MySQL).

❖ SQLite3 — Lightweight Embedded Database

SQLite3 is a built-in Python module used for working with **SQLite databases**, which are **serverless, self-contained, and zero-configuration**.

It is ideal for smaller applications, local storage, or development testing because it stores data in a **single .db file** on disk.

Key Features:

- No installation or server setup required (built into Python).
- Data stored locally in a file — perfect for testing or standalone applications.
- Supports all standard SQL commands like CREATE, INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, and SELECT.
- Fast and secure with minimal resource usage.

Example Workflow:

1. Import the sqlite3 module.
 2. Connect to a database (creates the file if it doesn't exist).
 3. Create a cursor object to execute SQL queries.
 4. Use SQL statements to create tables or manipulate data.
 5. Commit changes and close the connection.
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❖ PyMySQL — MySQL Database Connector for Python

PyMySQL is a third-party Python library that allows connection to a **MySQL database server** using Python code.

It is used for projects where a **multi-user environment** or **large-scale data storage** is required.

Key Features:

- Connects to remote or local MySQL servers using credentials (host, user, password, database name).
- Fully supports SQL operations (DDL, DML, and DQL).
- Enables Python to interact with enterprise-level MySQL databases used in web apps or data systems.
- Provides exception handling and secure transactions.

Example Workflow:

1. Install the library using `pip install pymysql`.
 2. Import the module and connect to the MySQL server using credentials.
 3. Create a cursor object to execute SQL statements.
 4. Execute queries (e.g., `INSERT`, `UPDATE`, `SELECT`).
 5. Commit changes and close the connection to prevent data loss.
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Executing SQL Queries in Python

Python acts as a **bridge** between the user and the database through these connectors.

After establishing a connection:

- SQL queries are written as **strings** inside Python code.
- These queries are executed using a **cursor object**.
- The results are fetched, displayed, or stored in Python variables for further use.

Example of Basic SQL Operations:

Operation	SQL Command	Python Method
Create Table	<code>CREATE TABLE students(...)</code>	<code>cursor.execute()</code>
Insert Data	<code>INSERT INTO students VALUES(...)</code>	<code>cursor.execute()</code>
Fetch Data	<code>SELECT * FROM students</code>	<code>cursor.fetchall()</code>
Commit Changes	-	<code>connection.commit()</code>
Close Connection	-	<code>connection.close()</code>

 **Importance of Using Connectors**

Using SQLite3 or PyMySQL allows Python developers to:

- Automate database operations.
- Reduce manual SQL work.
- Integrate back-end databases into real-world applications.
- Maintain data integrity and consistency.
- Support scalability — from small local apps to enterprise-level solutions.