

SQL - DROP or DELETE Table

The SQL **DROP TABLE** statement is used to remove a table definition and all the data, indexes, triggers, constraints and permission specifications for that table.

NOTE – You should be very careful while using this command because once a table is deleted then all the information available in that table will also be lost forever.

Syntax

The basic syntax of this DROP TABLE statement is as follows –

```
DROP TABLE table_name;
```

Example

Let us first verify the CUSTOMERS table and then we will delete it from the database as shown below –

```
SQL> DESC CUSTOMERS;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| Field | Type          | Null | Key | Default | Extra |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| ID    | int(11)       | NO   | PRI |          |       |
| NAME  | varchar(20)   | NO   |     |          |       |
| AGE   | int(11)       | NO   |     |          |       |
| ADDRESS | char(25)      | YES  |     | NULL     |       |
| SALARY | decimal(18,2) | YES  |     | NULL     |       |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
5 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

This means that the CUSTOMERS table is available in the database, so let us now drop it as shown below.

```
SQL> DROP TABLE CUSTOMERS;
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.01 sec)
```

Now, if you would try the DESC command, then you will get the following error –

```
SQL> DESC CUSTOMERS;
ERROR 1146 (42S02): Table 'TEST.CUSTOMERS' doesn't exist
```

Here, TEST is the database name which we are using for our examples.