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Databases

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Overview

A database simply acts as a store of collections. Typically each database will be used by a different application. This allows for the separation of collections in a Mongo instance based on what application requires them.

Create

The simplest way to create a new database is with the **use DB_NAME** command. This command changes what database is currently selected but if the database you are trying to select does not already exist then it will be created before it is selected. i.e. Creating an employee database:

```
use DB_NAME
```

Read

It is possible to show all the databases using

```
show dbs
```

This command only shows databases with *at least one collection*. If you want to get the name of the currently selected database then it can be easily accessed via the **db** variable.

```
db
```

This variable always points to the name of the currently selected database and can therefore be used as a shortcut when trying to access collections of, run functions on, or perform any other operation on the current database.

Update

There is unfortunately no easy to rename a database in Mongo. The simplest method is to copy your db, give the new db the name you want and remove the previous version, like so:

```
old_name.copyDatabase('old_name', 'new_name');
use old_name
old_name.dropDatabase();
```

Delete

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Deleting a database can be done by selecting the database you want to delete and calling the **dropDatabase()** function.

```
use DATABASE_NAME
db.dropDatabase()
```

Tutorial

1. Open a command window and connect to your Mongo instance.

```
mongo
```

2. Create a new database called **my_test_db** and select it.

```
use my_test_db
```

3. Display the current database.

```
db
```

4. Delete the newly created database.

```
db.dropDatabase()
```

Exercises

1. Create a new database called mongo_practice.

- Show solution
- 2. Delete the new database.
- Show solution
- 3. Recreate it.
- Show solution