## **COURSEWARE**

Pro	ofessional Skills					
Agile Fundamentals						
Jira						
Git						
Da	tabases Introduction					
0	Installing MySQL on Windows					
0	Provision a MySQL Server (Google Cloud Platform)					
0	Introduction to Relational Databases					
0	Data Design					
0	Data Definition Language (DDL)					
0	Entity-Relationship Diagrams					
0	Data Manipulation Language (DML)					
0	Data Query Language using SELECT					
0	Aggregate Functions					
0	Nested Queries					
0	Joins					
0	Data Normalisation					
Jav	a Beginner					
Ма	Maven					
Tes	Testing (Foundation)					
Jav	a Intermediate					
нт	ML					
CSS						
Javascript						
Spring Boot						
Selenium						
Soi	narqube					
Ad	vanced Testing (Theory)					
Cucumber						
MongoDB						
Exp	oress					

NodeJS

# Data Manipulation Language (DML)

#### Contents

- Overview
- CRUD operations
  - Inserting Data
  - <u>Deleting Records</u>
  - <u>Updating Records</u>
  - Viewing records
- <u>Tutorial</u>
- Exercises

#### Overview

Data Manipulation Language (DML) is a subset of SQL that is used to manipulate the *content* of the database.

This is different to DDL, which is used to manipulate the schema rather than the data.

DML is arguably the most widely-used subtype of MySQL, and is integrated often into applications to read/write data to/from databases.

The most well-used CRUD operations we'd expect to use in DML are:

- Inserting data to, and deleting data from, table
- Reading data from tables based on various criteria
- Updating the existing records in a table

## **CRUD** operations

You may see applications and operations being referred to as **CRUD** applications/operations. CRUD stands for:

- Create
- Read
- Update
- Delete

In MySQL syntax, there are a few ways that we can use CRUD functionality:

Operation	SQL
create	INSERT INTO
read	SELECT
update	UPDATE
delete	DELETE

## **Inserting Data**

The syntax for inserting records into a table breaks down into the following:

- Specify the table and columns that we're inserting data into
- Specify the values that we want to enter, in the same order that we used to identify the columns

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Jenkins Pipeline
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IDE Cheatsheet

If we are inserting into specific fields in a table, we must specify them:

```
INSERT INTO table_name (column_1, column_4, column_5)
VALUES (value_1, value_2, value_3);
```

However, if we're inserting into all fields, there is no need to specify them:

```
INSERT INTO table_name
VALUES (value_1, value_2, value_3, value_4, value_5);
```

If we have a field that auto increments (such as the PRIMARY KEY field for a table), we need to specify the rest of the fields when inserting data:

```
INSERT INTO customers (forename, surname, age)
VALUES ('Jeff', 'Cyrus', 29);
```

## **Deleting Records**

Deleting records from a table uses the **DELETE** keyword.

If you don't specify any criteria, MySQL will delete all records, so be very careful!

```
DELETE FROM customer_archive;
```

To delete a specific record, you should specify criteria; this is done with the where keyword.

```
DELETE FROM orders WHERE status='Cancelled';
```

## **Updating Records**

The syntax for updating records in a table breaks down into the following:

- Outline the table that the record exists in
- Specify the value for the changed field
- Outline any conditions

```
UPDATE table_name
SET column1=value1, column2=value2
WHERE field=value;
```

This becomes more difficult as the database has more relationships within records, as constraints may prevent certain fields from being edited (such as PRIMARY KEY fields).

#### Viewing records

We can view the records within a table with the **SELECT** keyword:

```
SELECT * FROM table_name;
```

SELECT is technically its own language - Data Query Language - and is covered in the <u>Data Query Language module</u>.

### **Tutorial**

There is no tutorial for this module.

#### Exercises

Start by inserting at least 5 records per table. It's recommended you start with customers and products, followed by orders.

(note: if you have not created a schema for the games shop database yet, refer back to the <u>Data Definition</u> module for context)

▶ Solution