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MySQL Run SQL Queries From A Shell Prompt / Command Line

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Q. How do I specify MySQL SQL queries on the UNIX / Linux command line?

A. mysql command line has option to execute the SQL statement and quit. This is also useful for running sql queries from a shell script. Following is the syntax:

MySQL. [1]

mysql -u user -p -e 'SQL Query' database

Where,
-u : Specify mysql database user name
-p : Prompt for password
-e : Execute sql query
database : Specify database name
To list all database, enter:

```
$ mysql -u vivek -p -e 'show databases;'
```

To list count all rows, enter:

```
$ mysql -u vivek -p -e 'SELECT COUNT(*) FROM quotes' cbzquotes
```

Sample output:

```
Enter password:
+----------+
| count(*) |
+----------+
|      471 |
+----------+
```

Tell mysql to display output a page at a time, by using more or less pager:

```
$ mysql --pager=/usr/bin/less -u vivek -p -e 'SELECT COUNT(*) FROM quotes' cbzquotes
```

Redirect out to a file:

```
$ mysql -u vivek -p 'PassWord' -e 'SELECT COUNT(*) FROM quotes' cbzquotes >
sql.output.txt
```

To avoid password prompt just create ~/my.cnf file:

```
[client]
# for local server
#host=localhost
host=10.0.1.100
user=vivek
password=myPassword

[mysql]
pager=/usr/bin/less
```

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