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Mysql remove duplicate data or rows with DISTINCT

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Q. How do I remove duplicate data or rows from a MySQL query?

A. If output from a MySQL query contains duplicate data or row and if you would like to remove the same use DISTINCT.

DISTINCT combined with ORDER BY needs a temporary table in many cases.
Consider following query:
mysql> **SELECT firstname FROM address;**

If you need unique firstname i.e remove duplicate contains type the command:
mysql> **SELECT DISTINCT firstname FROM address;**

You can use DISTINCT with multiple column as follows:
mysql> **SELECT DISTINCT firstname, city FROM address;**

For DISTINCT optimization please see this help page [1].

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[1] this help page: **http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.0/en/distinct-optimization.html**