**Cloning:**

There are namely three different methods of making a clone table in SQL:

**---Simple cloning**

**---Shallow cloning**

**---Deep cloning**

**Simple cloning:** In this method, the clone table inherits only the basic column definitions like the NULL settings and default values from the original table. It does NOT inherit the indices and AUTO\_INCREMENT definitions.

**Note:** Defining some columns as AUTO\_INCREMENT will make SQL automatically put the first entry as '1' (one) and increase that value by one at every new entry. A PRIMARY KEY column is usually defined with AUTO\_INCREMENT.

**Syntax:**

**CREATE TABLE <clone\_table> SELECT \* FROM <original\_table>;**

**Syntax**

--create the clone

**CREATE TABLE EMPLOYEEcopy SELECT \* FROM EMPLOYEE;**

--insert new values to the clone

**INSERT INTO EMPLOYEEcopy (Name, Dept)**

**VALUES ('Hudson', 'PR');**

**INSERT INTO EMPLOYEEcopy (Name, Dept)**

**VALUES ('Jane', 'Software Development');**

--fetch the clone

**SELECT \* FROM EMPLOYEEcopy;**



**Shallow cloning:** In this method, the clone table contains only the structure of the original table along with the column attributes, but no data from the original table is copied to the clone table.

**Syntax:**

**CREATE TABLE <clone\_table> LIKE <original\_table>;**

**MySQL code to make a clone and print it:**

--create the clone

**CREATE TABLE EMPLOYEEcopy LIKE EMPLOYEE;**

--fetch the clone

**SELECT \* FROM EMPLOYEEcopy;**

Out put:

No values

**MySQL code to add two new entries:**

--insert new entries to the clone

**INSERT INTO EMPLOYEEcopy (Name, Dept)**

**VALUES ('Hudson', 'PR');**

**INSERT INTO EMPLOYEEcopy (Name, Dept)**

**VALUES ('Jane', 'Software Development');**

--fetch the clone

**SELECT \* FROM EMPLOYEEcopy;**



**Deep cloning:** In the method, the clone table not only gets the structure and the column attributes from the original table but also the data from the original table is copied.

**Syntax:**

**CREATE TABLE <clone\_table> LIKE <original\_table>;**

**INSERT INTO <clone\_table> SELECT \* FROM <original\_table>;**

**MySQL code to make a clone and print it:**

--create the clone

**CREATE TABLE EMPLOYEEcopy LIKE EMPLOYEE;**

--insert data in the clone from the original table

**INSERT INTO EMPLOYEEcopy SELECT \* FROM EMPLOYEE;**

--fetch the clone

**SELECT \* FROM EMPLOYEEcopy;**



The output is exactly the same as the original EMPLOYEE table.

Now let us add two new entries to validate the functioning of the indices and the AUTO\_INCREMENT definition.

**MySQL code to insert new values to the clone:**

--insert new values to the clone

**INSERT INTO EMPLOYEEcopy (Name, Dept)**

**VALUES ('Hudson', 'PR');**

**INSERT INTO EMPLOYEEcopy (Name, Dept)**

**VALUES ('Jane', 'Software Development');**

--fetch the clone

**SELECT \* FROM EMPLOYEEcopy;**

