

SQL DELETE Statement

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The SQL DELETE Statement

The **DELETE** statement is used to delete existing records in a table.

DELETE Syntax

```
DELETE FROM table_name WHERE condition;
```

Note: Be careful when deleting records in a table! Notice the **WHERE** clause in the **DELETE** statement. The **WHERE** clause specifies which record(s) should be deleted. If you omit the **WHERE** clause, all records in the table will be deleted!

Demo Database

Below is a selection from the "Customers" table in the Northwind sample database:

CustomerID	CustomerName	ContactName	Address	City	PostalCode
1	Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Obere Str. 57	Berlin	12209
2	Ana Trujillo Emparedados y helados	Ana Trujillo	Avda. de la Constitución 2222	México D.F.	05021
3	Antonio Moreno Taquería	Antonio Moreno	Mataderos 2312	México D.F.	05023
4	Around the Horn	Thomas Hardy	120 Hanover Sq.	London	WA1 1DP

5	Berglunds snabbköp	Christina Berglund	Berguvsvägen 8	Luleå	S-958 22
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SQL DELETE Example

The following SQL statement deletes the customer "Alfreds Futterkiste" from the "Customers" table:

Example

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```
DELETE FROM Customers WHERE CustomerName='Alfreds Futterkiste';
```

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The "Customers" table will now look like this:

CustomerID	CustomerName	ContactName	Address	City	PostalCode
2	Ana Trujillo Emparedados y helados	Ana Trujillo	Avda. de la Constitución 2222	México D.F.	05021
3	Antonio Moreno Taquería	Antonio Moreno	Mataderos 2312	México D.F.	05023
4	Around the Horn	Thomas Hardy	120 Hanover Sq.	London	WA1 1DP
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Delete All Records

It is possible to delete all rows in a table without deleting the table. This means that the table structure, attributes, and indexes will be intact:

```
DELETE FROM table_name;
```

The following SQL statement deletes all rows in the "Customers" table, without deleting the table:

Example

```
DELETE FROM Customers;
```

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