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SQL Indexes

* Indexes are special lookup table that the database search engine can upto ~~set~~ speed up data retrieval. Simply put, an index is a pointer to data in a table. An index in a database is similar to an index in the back of the book.

* An index helps to speed up SELECT queries and WHERE clause but it slows down data input, with UPDATE and the insert statement. Index can be created or dropped with no effect on data.

* Creating an index involves the CREATE statement which allows you to specify the table and which column or columns to index, and to indicate whether the index is in an ascending order or descending order.

Indexes can also be unique like the UNIQUE constraint, in that the index prevents duplicate entries in the column or combination of columns on which there is an index.

* CREATE INDEX

CREATE INDEX index-name ON table-name

Single Column index

CREATE INDEX index-name

ON table-name (column-name);

UNIQUE Indexes

CREATE UNIQUE INDEX index-name:

ON table-name (column-name)

Composite indexes:

CREATE INDEX index-name

ON table-name (column1, column2);