## 03.2 Enum Type

```sql
CREATE TABLE example (
    mood ENUM('Happy', 'Sad')
);
```

ENUM is a string object in MySQL. It represents one value from a list of predefined values.
It used for a column that can have only a certain set of values.

```sql
INSERT INTO example (mood) VALUES ('Happy');
```

```sql
SELECT mood FROM example;
```

## Benefits

-> Reduces invalid data entry
-> Useful for columns with a limited set of values that rarely change
-> It gives static choices for the column
-> More efficient than VARCHAR for small, fixed sets
-> Indexes can be created to enhance query performance, this will greatly help if the column is frequently used in the where clause or as Join Keys

```sql
CREATE INDEX idx_mood ON example(mood);
```

## Keep in mind!

-> Should not be used for a column which is expected to change it values in the future.
-> **Case sensitivity:**

```sql
INSERT INTO example (mood) VALUES ('happy'); -- Will result in an error if 'happy'
is not a declared ENUM value
```

-> **ENUM and Sorting:** ENUMS are sorted based on the declaration of the ENUM column.

```sql
SELECT * FROM example ORDER BY mood;
```