Various ALTER Queries in MySQL with Examples

Add a New Column
ALTER TABLE employees ADD age INT;

Add Multiple Columns
ALTER TABLE employees ADD salary DECIMAL(10,2), ADD department VARCHAR(50);

Modify Column Datatype
ALTER TABLE employees MODIFY age VARCHAR(10);

Change Column Name
ALTER TABLE employees CHANGE empName employee_name VARCHAR(50);

Drop a Column
ALTER TABLE employees DROP COLUMN age;

Rename Table
ALTER TABLE employees RENAME TO staff;

Add Primary Key
ALTER TABLE employees ADD PRIMARY KEY (emp_id);

Drop Primary Key
ALTER TABLE employees DROP PRIMARY KEY;

Add Unique Constraint
ALTER TABLE employees ADD UNIQUE (email);

Add Foreign Key
ALTER TABLE orders ADD CONSTRAINT fk_customer FOREIGN KEY (cust_id) REFERENCES customers(cust_id);

Drop Foreign Key
ALTER TABLE orders DROP FOREIGN KEY fk_customer;

Add NOT NULL Constraint
ALTER TABLE employees MODIFY empName VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL;

Drop NOT NULL Constraint
ALTER TABLE employees MODIFY empName VARCHAR(50) NULL;

Add DEFAULT Value
ALTER TABLE employees ALTER department SET DEFAULT 'General';

OR

ALTER TABLE employees ALTER COLUMN department SET DEFAULT 'General';

Drop DEFAULT Value
ALTER TABLE employees ALTER department DROP DEFAULT;

OR

ALTER TABLE employees ALTER COLUMN department DROP DEFAULT;

Change Column Position
ALTER TABLE employees MODIFY department VARCHAR(50) AFTER empName;

Add Auto Increment
ALTER TABLE employees MODIFY emp_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT;

Drop Auto Increment
ALTER TABLE employees MODIFY emp_id INT;

Add Check Constraint
ALTER TABLE employees ADD CONSTRAINT chk_salary CHECK (salary > 0);

Drop Check Constraint
ALTER TABLE employees DROP CHECK chk_salary;