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How do I show the schema of a table in a MySQL database?

From the MySQL console, what command displays the schema of any given table?

mysql database schema database-schema

edited Jan 11 at 9:20



Brian Tompsett - 汤莱恩
3,811 13 33 83

asked Sep 30 '09 at 15:15



dlamblin
23.2k 17 62 99

Related, if it's of interest, I wrote a *Describe All Tables* in [this Answer](#). – Drew Jul 31 '16 at 19:52

4 Answers

```
describe [db_name.]table_name;
```

for formatted output, or

```
show create table [db_name.]table_name;
```

for the SQL statement that can be used to create a table.

edited Sep 28 '16 at 19:44

answered Sep 30 '09 at 15:20

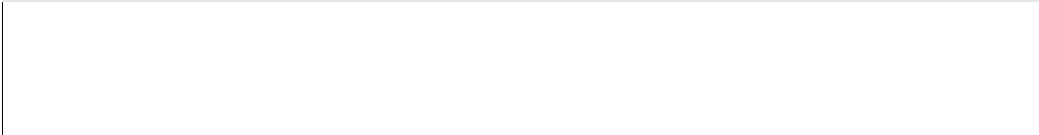


Omry Yadan
14.3k 9 38 68

This is not the answer. The OP is looking to figure out the "db_name" part, and this solution assumes you already know that – [Antonio Ortells](#) Dec 20 '16 at 21:36

4 the OP accepted that answer 7 years ago. I think he was happy with that answer. – [Omry Yadan](#) Dec 21 '16 at 22:36

Database is not a schema. – [PHP Lover](#) Jan 12 at 10:09



```
SHOW CREATE TABLE yourTable;
```

or

```
SHOW COLUMNS FROM yourTable;
```

[edited Sep 24 '12 at 6:57](#)

[answered Sep 30 '09 at 15:17](#)



[Bobby](#)
8,980 3 33 65

You can also use shorthand for describe as `desc` for table description.

```
desc [db_name.]table_name;
```

or

```
use db_name;
desc table_name;
```

You can also use `explain` for table description.

```
explain [db_name.]table_name;
```

See [official doc](#)

Will give output like:

Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
id	int(10)	NO	PRI	NULL	
name	varchar(20)	YES		NULL	
age	int(10)	YES		NULL	
sex	varchar(10)	YES		NULL	
sal	int(10)	YES		NULL	
location	varchar(20)	YES		Pune	

[edited Feb 3 '16 at 12:23](#)

answered Jan 27 '16 at 14:09

[Somnath Muluk](#)

25.9k 15 154 178

```
SELECT COLUMN_NAME, TABLE_NAME, table_schema  
FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMNS;
```

answered Oct 14 '16 at 10:31

[Lam](#)

170 2 11

protected by [Tushar Gupta](#) Sep 24 '14 at 12:06

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