SQL DELETE STATEMENT

SQL DELETE is a basic SQL operation used to delete data in a database. SQL DELETE is an important part of database management DELETE can be used to selectively remove records from a database table based on certain conditions. This SQL DELETE operation is important for database size management, data accuracy, and integrity.

Syntax

```
DELETE FROM table_name
WHERE some_condition;
```

Parameter Explanation

+ **Some_condition**: condition to choose a particular record.
+ **table_name**: name of the table

Note: We can delete single as well as multiple records depending on the condition we provide in the WHERE clause. If we omit the WHERE clause then all of the records will be deleted and the table will be empty.

The sample table is as follows Employees

Query

Assume we have created a table named Employees which contains the personal details of the Employee including their id, name, email and department etc. as shown below

```sql
CREATE TABLE Employees (
    id INT PRIMARY KEY,
    name VARCHAR (20) ,
    email VARCHAR (25),
    department VARCHAR(20)
);
INSERT INTO Employees (id, name, email, department)
VALUES
    (1, 'Jessie', 'jessie23@gmail.com', 'Development'),
    (2, 'Praveen', 'praveen_dagger@yahoo.com', 'HR'),
    (3, 'Bisa', 'dragonBall@gmail.com', 'Sales'),
    (4, 'Rithvik', 'msvv@hotmail.com', 'IT'),
    (5, 'Suraj', 'srjsunny@gmail.com', 'Quality Assurance'),
    (6, 'Om', 'OmShukla@yahoo.com', 'IT'),
    (7, 'Naruto', 'uzumaki@konoha.com', 'Development');
SELECT  * FROM  Employees
```

Output

id	name	email	department
1	Jessie	jessie23@gmail.com	Development
2	Praveen	praveen_dagger@yahoo.com	HR
3	Bisa	dragonBall@gmail.com	Sales
4	Rithvik	msvv@hotmail.com	IT
5	Suraj	srjsunny@gmail.com	Quality Assurance
6	Om	OmShukla@yahoo.com	IT
7	Naruto	uzumaki@konoha.com	Development

Employees

Deleting Single Record

You can delete the records named Rithvik by using the below query.

Query

```
DELETE FROM Employees WHERE NAME = 'Rithvik';
```

Output

id	name	email	department
1	Jessie	jessie23@gmail.com	Development
2	Praveen	praveen_dagger@yahoo.com	HR
3	Bisa	dragonBall@gmail.com	Sales
5	Suraj	srjsunny@gmail.com	Quality Assurance
6	Om	OmShukla@yahoo.com	IT
7	Naruto	uzumaki@konoha.com	Development

Deleting Multiple Records

Delete the rows from the table Employees where the department is "Development". This will delete 2 rows(the first row and the seventh row).

Query

```
DELETE FROM Employees
WHERE department = 'Development';
```

Output

id	name	email	department
2	Praveen	praveen_dagger@yahoo.com	HR
3	Bisa	dragonBall@gmail.com	Sales
5	Suraj	srjsunny@gmail.com	Quality Assurance
6	Om	OmShukla@yahoo.com	IT

Output

Delete All of the Records

To remove all the entries from the table, you can use the following query.

Query

```
DELETE FROM Employees;
Or
DELETE * FROM Employees;
```

Output

All of the records in the table will be deleted, there are no records left to display. The table Employees will become empty.

id	name	email	department
empty			

Output

Important Note

DELETE is a DML (Data Manipulation Language) command hence operation performed by DELETE can be rolled back or undone.

Conclusion

Existing records in a table can be deleted using the SQL DELETE Statement. We can delete a single record or multiple records depending on the condition we specify in the WHERE clause and With DELETE statament, you can filter the uncommitted records from the table.