Handy MySQL Commands	
Description	**Command**
To login (from unix shell) use -h only if needed.	[mysql dir]/bin/mysql -h hostname -u root -p
Create a database on the sql server.	create database [databasename];
List all databases on the sql server.	show databases;
Switch to a database.	use [db name];
To see all the tables in the db.	show tables;
To see database's field formats.	describe [table name];
To delete a db.	drop database [database name];
To delete a table.	drop table [table name];
Show all data in a table.	SELECT * FROM [table name];
Returns the columns and column information pertaining to the designated table.	show columns from [table name];
Show certain selected rows with the value "whatever".	SELECT * FROM [table name] WHERE [field name] = "whatever";
Show all records containing the name "Bob" AND the phone number '3444444'.	SELECT * FROM [table name] WHERE name = "Bob" AND phone_number = '3444444';
Show all records not containing the name "Bob" AND the phone number '3444444' order by the phone_number field.	SELECT * FROM [table name] WHERE name != "Bob" AND phone_number = '3444444' order by phone_number;
Show all records starting with the letters 'bob' AND the phone number '3444444'.	SELECT * FROM [table name] WHERE name like "Bob%" AND phone_number = '3444444';
Use a regular expression to find records. Use "REGEXP BINARY" to force case-sensitivity. This finds any record beginning with a.	SELECT * FROM [table name] WHERE rec RLIKE "^a$";
Show unique records.	SELECT DISTINCT [column name] FROM [table name];
Show selected records sorted in an ascending (asc) or descending (desc).	SELECT [col1],[col2] FROM [table name] ORDER BY [col2] DESC;

Count rows.	SELECT COUNT(*) FROM [table name];
Join tables on common columns.	select lookup.illustrationid, lookup.personid,person.birthday from lookup left join person on lookup.personid=person.personid=statement to join birthday in person table with primary illustration id;
Switch to the mysql db. Create a new user.	INSERT INTO [table name] (Host,User,Password) VALUES('%','user',PASSWORD('password'));
Change a users password.(from unix shell).	[mysql dir]/bin/mysqladmin -u root -h hostname.blah.org -p password 'new-password'
Change a users password.(from MySQL prompt).	SET PASSWORD FOR 'user'@'hostname' = PASSWORD('passwordhere');
Switch to mysql db.Give user privilages for a db.	INSERT INTO [table name] (Host,Db,User,Select_priv,Insert_priv,Update_priv,Delete_priv,Create_priv,Drop_priv) VALUES ('%','db','user','Y','Y','Y','Y','Y','N');
To update info already in a table.	UPDATE [table name] SET Select_priv = 'Y',Insert_priv = 'Y',Update_priv = 'Y' where [field name] = 'user';
Delete a row(s) from a table.	DELETE from [table name] where [field name] = 'whatever';
Update database permissions/privilages.	FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
Delete a column.	alter table [table name] drop column [column name];
Add a new column to db.	alter table [table name] add column [new column name] varchar (20);
Change column name.	alter table [table name] change [old column name] [new column name] varchar (50);
Make a unique column so you get no dupes.	alter table [table name] add unique ([column name]);
Make a column bigger.	alter table [table name] modify [column name] VARCHAR(3);
Delete unique from table.	alter table [table name] drop index [colmn name];
Load a CSV file into a table.	LOAD DATA INFILE '/tmp/filename.csv' replace INTO TABLE [table name] FIELDS TERMINATED BY ',' LINES TERMINATED BY '\n' (field1,field2,field3);
Dump all databases for backup. Backup file is sql commands to recreate all db's.	[mysql dir]/bin/mysqldump -u root -ppassword --opt >/tmp/alldatabases.sql
Dump one database for backup.	[mysql dir]/bin/mysqldump -u username -ppassword --databases databasename >/tmp/databasename.sql
Dump a table from a database.	[mysql dir]/bin/mysqldump -c -u username -ppassword databasename tablename > /tmp/databasename.tablename.sql
Restore database (or database table) from backup.	[mysql dir]/bin/mysql -u username -ppassword databasename < /tmp/databasename.sql
Create Table Example 1.	CREATE TABLE [table name] (firstname VARCHAR(20), middleinitial VARCHAR(3), lastname VARCHAR(35),suffix VARCHAR(3), officeid VARCHAR(10),userid VARCHAR(15),username VARCHAR(8),email VARCHAR(35),phone VARCHAR(25), groups VARCHAR(15),datestamp DATE,timestamp time,pgpemail VARCHAR(255));
Create Table Example 2.	create table [table name] (personid int(50) not null auto_increment primary key,firstname varchar(35),middlename varchar(50),lastname varchar(50) default 'bato');