```
On this page
Insert
 SQL
  -- A :result value of :n below will return affected row count:
  -- :name insert-character :! :n
 -- :doc Insert a single character
 insert into characters (name, specialty)
 values (:name, :specialty)
  -- :name insert-characters :! :n
 -- :doc Insert multiple characters with :tuple* parameter type
 insert into characters (name, specialty)
 values :tuple*:characters
 Clojure
 (characters/insert-character-sqlvec
  {:name "Westley", :specialty "love"}) ;;=>
  ["insert into characters (name, specialty)
   values (?, ?)"
  , "Westley"
  ,"love"]
 (characters/insert-character db
   {:name "Westley", :specialty "love"}) ;;=>
 1
  (characters/insert-character db
   {:name "Buttercup", :specialty "beauty"}) ;;=>
```

```
(characters/insert-characters-sqlvec
 {:characters
  [["Vizzini" "intelligence"]
  ["Fezzik" "strength"]
   ["Inigo Montoya" "swordmanship"]]}) ;;=>
["insert into characters (name, specialty)
  values (?,?),(?,?),(?,?)"
"Vizzini"
, "intelligence"
,"Fezzik"
,"strength"
,"Inigo Montoya"
, "swordmanship"]
(characters/insert-characters
 db
 {:characters
  [["Vizzini" "intelligence"]
   ["Fezzik" "strength"]
   ["Inigo Montoya" "swordmanship"]]}) ;;=>
3
```

## Retrieving Last Inserted ID or Record

It is often the case that you want to return the record just inserted or at least the auto-generated ID. This functionality varies greatly across databases and JDBC drivers. HugSQL attempts to help where it can. You will need to choose an option that fits your database.

## **Option #1: INSERT ... RETURNING**

If your database supports the RETURNING clause of INSERT (e.g., Postgresql supports this), you can specify your SQL insert statement command type to be :returning-execute, or :<! for short:

```
-- :name insert-into-test-table-returning :<!
-- :doc insert with an sql returning clause
insert into test (id, name) values (:id, :name) returning id
```

## Option #2: Get Generated Keys / Last Insert ID / Inserted Record

HugSQL's :insert, or :i! command type indicates to the underlying adapter that the insert should be performed, and then .getGeneratedKeys called in the jdbc driver. The return value of .getGeneratedKeys varies greatly across different databases and jdbc drivers. For example, see the following code from the HugSQL test suite:

```
-- :name insert-into-test-table-return-keys :insert :raw
insert into test (id, name) values (:id, :name)
```

Clojure

```
:sqlite
    (is (= {(keyword "last_insert_rowid()") 10}
           (insert-into-test-table-return-keys db {:id 10 :name "J"} {})))
    :h2
    (is (= {(keyword "scope_identity()") 11}
           (insert-into-test-table-return-keys db {:id 11 :name "J"} {})))
    ;; hsql and derby don't seem to support .getGeneratedKeys
    nil))
(when (= adapter-name :clojure.jdbc)
  (condp = db-name)
    :postgresql
    (is (= [{:id 8 :name "H"}]
           (insert-into-test-table-return-keys db {:id 8 :name "H"} {})))
    :mysql
    (is (= [{:generated_key 9}]
           (insert-into-test-table-return-keys db {:id 9 :name "I"})))
    :sqlite
    (is (= [{(keyword "last_insert_rowid()") 10}]
           (insert-into-test-table-return-keys db {:id 10 :name "J"} {})))
    :h2
    (is (= [{(keyword "scope_identity()") 11}]
           (insert-into-test-table-return-keys db {:id 11 :name "J"} {})))
    ;; hsql and derby don't seem to support .getGeneratedKeys
    nil)))
```

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