**What is a VIEW in Oracle?**

An Oracle VIEW, is a virtual table that does not physically exist.

Rather, it is created by a query joining one or more tables.

CREATE VIEW view\_name AS

SELECT columns

FROM tables

[WHERE conditions];

CREATE VIEW sup\_orders AS

SELECT suppliers.supplier\_id, orders.quantity, orders.price

FROM suppliers

INNER JOIN orders

ON suppliers.supplier\_id = orders.supplier\_id

WHERE suppliers.supplier\_name = 'Microsoft';

This Oracle CREATE VIEW example would create a virtual table based on the result set of the SELECT statement. You can now query the Oracle VIEW as follows:

SELECT \* FROM sup\_orders;

**Update View:**

You can modify the definition of an Oracle VIEW without dropping it by using the Oracle CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW Statement.

The syntax for the CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW Statement in Oracle/PLSQL is:

CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW view\_name AS

SELECT columns

FROM table

WHERE conditions;

CREATE or REPLACE VIEW sup\_orders AS

SELECT suppliers.supplier\_id, orders.quantity, orders.price

FROM suppliers

INNER JOIN orders

ON suppliers.supplier\_id = orders.supplier\_id

WHERE suppliers.supplier\_name = 'Apple';

This Oracle CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW example would update the definition of the Oracle VIEW called *sup\_orders* without dropping it. If the Oracle VIEW did not yet exist, the VIEW would merely be created for the first time.

**DROP VIEW:**

Once an Oracle VIEW has been created, you can drop it with the Oracle DROP VIEW Statement.

DROP VIEW view\_name;

DROP VIEW sup\_orders;

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question: What is a VIEW ?**

**Answer:** View is a virtual/logical table based on other base tables or views.

Views will not hold data of its own, instead it retrieves the data from the base table/view whenever the View is queried.

Views are used to represent the same data in multiple formats.(say, aggregated, detailed,summary information, etc…)

**Question:** Can you update the data in an Oracle VIEW?

**Answer:** A VIEW in Oracle is created by joining one or more tables. When you update record(s) in a VIEW, it updates the records in the underlying tables that make up the View.

So, yes, you can update the data in an Oracle VIEW providing you have the proper privileges to the underlying Oracle tables.

**Question:** Does the Oracle View exist if the table is dropped from the database?

**Answer:** Yes, in Oracle, the VIEW continues to exist even after one of the tables (that the Oracle VIEW is based on) is dropped from the database. However, if you try to query the Oracle VIEW after the [table has been dropped](https://www.techonthenet.com/oracle/tables/drop_table.php), you will receive a message indicating that the Oracle VIEW has errors.

If you [recreate the table](https://www.techonthenet.com/oracle/tables/create_table.php) (the table that you had dropped), the Oracle VIEW will again be fine.

**NOTE:**

Views will not hold data of it’s own, instead when ever you call the view it actually fetches the data from the base table.

Advantage of a View is ,

we can create any number of view as it will not consume any space in the DB.

You can hide what ever information you do not want to share another user and provide Grant permission.

Are DML’s allowed on a View ?

Yes we can perform DML operations on a View.