Start-Tech Academy

ALTER

The ALTER TABLE statement is used to change the definition or structure of an existing table

Syntax

ALTER TABLE "table_name"
[Specify Actions];

Following actions can be performed

- Columns – Add, Delete (Drop), Modify or Rename
- Constraints – Add, Drop
- Index – Add, Drop

COLUMN – ADD & DROP

The basic syntax of an ALTER TABLE command to add/drop a **Column** in an existing table is as follows.

Syntax

ALTER TABLE "table_name"

ADD "column_name" "Data Type";

ALTER TABLE "table_name"

DROP "column_name";

COLUMN – MODIFY & RENAME

The basic syntax of an ALTER TABLE command to Modify/Rename a **Column** in an existing table is as follows.

Syntax

ALTER TABLE "table_name"

ALTER COLUMN "column_name" TYPE "New Data Type";

ALTER TABLE "table_name"

RENAME COLUMN "column 1" TO "column 2";

CONSTRAINT – ADD & DROP

The basic syntax of an ALTER TABLE command to add/drop a **Constraint** on a existing table is as follows.

Syntax

1. ALTER TABLE "table_name" ALTER COLUMN "column_name" SET NOT NULL;

2. ALTER TABLE "table_name" ALTER COLUMN "column_name" DROP NOT NULL;

3. ALTER TABLE "table_name" ADD CONSTRAINT "column_name" CHECK ("column_name">=100);

4. ALTER TABLE "table_name" ADD PRIMARY KEY ("column_name");

5. ALTER TABLE "child_table" ADD CONSTRAINT "child_column"

   FOREIGN KEY ("parent column") REFERENCES "parent table";

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