



Skills Network

Hands on Lab : CREATE, ALTER, TRUNCATE, DROP Tables

Estimated time needed: 15 minutes

In this lab, you will learn some commonly used DDL (Data Definition Language) statements of SQL. First you will learn the CREATE statement, which is used to create a new table in a database. Next, you will learn the ALTER statement which is used to add, delete, or modify columns in an existing table. Then, you will learn the TRUNCATE statement which is used to remove all rows from an existing table without deleting the table itself. Lastly, you will learn the DROP statement which is used to delete an existing table in a database.

How does the syntax of a CREATE statement look?

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6

1. CREATE TABLE table_name (
2.     column1 datatype,
3.     column2 datatype,
4.     column3 datatype,
5.     ....
6. );
```

Copied!

How does the syntax of an ALTER statement look?

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
8. 8
9. 9
10. 10
11. 11

1. ALTER TABLE table_name
2. ADD COLUMN column_name data_type column_constraint;
3.
4. ALTER TABLE table_name
5. DROP COLUMN column_name;
6.
7. ALTER TABLE table_name
8. ALTER COLUMN column_name SET DATA TYPE data_type;
9.
10. ALTER TABLE table_name
11. RENAME COLUMN current_column_name TO new_column_name;
```

Copied!

How does the syntax of a TRUNCATE statement look?

```
1. 1

1. TRUNCATE TABLE table_name;
```

Copied!

How does the syntax of a DROP statement look?

```
1. 1

1. DROP TABLE table_name;
```

Copied!

Software Used in this Lab

In this lab, you will use [IBM Db2 Database](#). Db2 is a Relational Database Management System (RDBMS) from IBM, designed to store, analyze and retrieve the data efficiently.

To complete this lab you will utilize a Db2 database service on IBM Cloud. If you did not already complete this lab task earlier in this module, you will not yet have access to Db2 on IBM Cloud, and you will need to follow this lab first:

- [Hands-on Lab : Sign up for IBM Cloud, Create Db2 service instance and Get started with the Db2 console](#)

Database Used in this Lab

The databases used in this lab are internal databases.

Objectives

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

- Create a new table in a database
- Add, delete, or modify columns in an existing table
- Remove all rows from an existing table without deleting the table itself
- Delete an existing table in a database

Instructions

When you approach the exercises in this lab, follow the instructions to run the queries on Db2:

- Go to the [Resource List](#) of IBM Cloud by logging in where you can find the Db2 service instance that you created in a previous lab under **Services** section. Click on the **Db2-xx service**. Next, open the Db2 Console by clicking on **Open Console** button. Click on the 3-bar menu icon in the top left corner and go to the **Run SQL** page. The Run SQL tool enables you to run SQL statements.
 - If needed, follow [Hands-on Lab : Sign up for IBM Cloud, Create Db2 service instance and Get started with the Db2 console](#)

::page[title="Exercise 1: CREATE"]

In this exercise, you will use the CREATE statement to create two new tables using Db2.

1. You need to create two tables, **PETSALE** and **PET**. To create the two tables PETSALE and PET, copy the code below and paste it to the textbox of the **Run SQL** page. Click **Run all**. In the **History** section below the editor box, you will be able to see if the query has been executed successfully or not.

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
8. 8
9. 9
10. 10
11. 11
12. 12
13. 13
1. CREATE TABLE PETSALE (
2.   ID INTEGER NOT NULL,
3.   PET CHAR(20),
4.   SALEPRICE DECIMAL(6,2),
5.   PROFIT DECIMAL(6,2),
6.   SALEDATE DATE
7. );
8.
9. CREATE TABLE PET (
10.  ID INTEGER NOT NULL,
11.  ANIMAL VARCHAR(20),
12.  QUANTITY INTEGER
13. );
```

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Script	Date	Status	Runtime
Untitled - 1	Apr 21, 2023 4:03:57 PM	2	0.232 s
CREATE TABLE PETSALE (ID INTEGER NOT NULL, PET CHAR(20), SALEPRICE...		✓	0.131 s
CREATE TABLE PET (ID INTEGER NOT NULL, ANIMAL VARCHAR(20), QUANTI...		✓	0.101 s

2. Now insert some records into the two newly created tables and show all the records of the two tables. Copy the code below and paste it to the textbox of the **Run SQL** page. Click **Run all**.

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
8. 8
9. 9
10. 10
11. 11
12. 12
13. 13
14. 14
1. INSERT INTO PETSALE VALUES
2.   (1,'Cat',450.09,100.47,'2018-05-29'),
3.   (2,'Dog',666.66,150.76,'2018-06-01'),
4.   (3,'Parrot',50.00,8.9,'2018-06-04'),
5.   (4,'Hamster',60.60,12,'2018-06-11'),
6.   (5,'Goldfish',48.48,3.5,'2018-06-14');
7.
8. INSERT INTO PET VALUES
9.   (1,'Cat',3),
10.  (2,'Dog',4),
11.  (3,'Hamster',2);
12.
13. SELECT * FROM PETSALE;
14. SELECT * FROM PET;
```

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Script	Date	Status	Runtime
Untitled - 1	Apr 21, 2023 4:00:05 PM	4	0.027 s
INSERT INTO PETSALE VALUES (1,'Cat',450.09,100.47,'2018-05-29'), (...)		✓	0.018 s
INSERT INTO PET VALUES (1,'Cat',3), (2,'Dog',4), (3,'Hamster',2)		✓	0.007 s
SELECT * FROM PETSALE		✓	0.005 s

You can click on the query in the History section to check its result:

The screenshot shows the IBM Db2 on Cloud interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with 'Data objects' and 'Saved objects'. The main area displays a SQL editor with the following code:

```
1 INSERT INTO PETSale VALUES
2 (1, 'Cat', 450.09, 100.47, '2018-05-29'),
3 (2, 'Dog', 666.66, 150.76, '2018-06-01'),
4 (3, 'Parrot', 50.00, 8.9, '2018-06-04'),
5 (4, 'Hamster', 60.00, 12, '2018-06-11'),
6 (5, 'Goldfish', 48.48, 3.5, '2018-06-14');
7
8 INSERT INTO PET VALUES
9 (1, 'Cat', 3);
10
```

Below the editor, the 'Results' tab is active, showing a table with 5 rows and 5 columns: ID, PET, SALEPRICE, PROFIT, and SALEDATE.

ID	PET	SALEPRICE	PROFIT	SALEDATE
1	Cat	450.09	100.47	2018-05-29
2	Dog	666.66	150.76	2018-06-01
3	Parrot	50.00	8.90	2018-06-04
4	Hamster	60.00	12.00	2018-06-11
5	Goldfish	48.48	3.50	2018-06-14

::page{title="Exercise 2: ALTER"}

In this exercise, you will use the ALTER statement to add, delete, or modify columns in two of the existing tables created in exercise 1.

Task A: ALTER using ADD COLUMN

1. Add a new **QUANTITY** column to the **PETSale** table and show the altered table. Copy the code below and paste it to the textbox of the **Run SQL** page. Click **Run all**.

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
1. ALTER TABLE PETSale
2. ADD COLUMN QUANTITY INTEGER;
3.
4. SELECT * FROM PETSale;
```

Copied!

The screenshot shows the IBM Db2 on Cloud interface. The SQL editor contains the following code:

```
1 ALTER TABLE PETSale
2 ADD COLUMN QUANTITY INTEGER;
3
4 SELECT * FROM PETSale;
```

The 'Results' tab is active, showing a table with 5 rows and 6 columns: ID, PET, SALEPRICE, PROFIT, SALEDATE, and QUANTITY.

ID	PET	SALEPRICE	PROFIT	SALEDATE	QUANTITY
1	Cat	450.09	100.47	2018-05-29	
2	Dog	666.66	150.76	2018-06-01	
3	Parrot	50.00	8.90	2018-06-04	
4	Hamster	60.00	12.00	2018-06-11	
5	Goldfish	48.48	3.50	2018-06-14	

2. Now update the newly added **QUANTITY** column of the **PETSale** table with some values and show all the records of the table. Copy the code below and paste it to the textbox of the **Run SQL** page. Click **Run all**. After the query has executed successfully, click on it to check the result set.

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
1. UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 9 WHERE ID = 1;
2. UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 3 WHERE ID = 2;
3. UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 2 WHERE ID = 3;
4. UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 6 WHERE ID = 4;
5. UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 24 WHERE ID = 5;
6.
7. SELECT * FROM PETSale;
```

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The screenshot shows the IBM Db2 on Cloud interface. The SQL editor contains the following code:

```
1 UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 9 WHERE ID = 1;
2 UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 3 WHERE ID = 2;
3 UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 2 WHERE ID = 3;
4 UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 6 WHERE ID = 4;
5 UPDATE PETSale SET QUANTITY = 24 WHERE ID = 5;
6
7 SELECT * FROM PETSale;
```

The 'Results' tab is active, showing a table with 5 rows and 6 columns: ID, PET, SALEPRICE, PROFIT, SALEDATE, and QUANTITY.

ID	PET	SALEPRICE	PROFIT	SALEDATE	QUANTITY
1	Cat	450.09	100.47	2018-05-29	9
2	Dog	666.66	150.76	2018-06-01	3
3	Parrot	50.00	8.90	2018-06-04	2
4	Hamster	60.00	12.00	2018-06-11	6
5	Goldfish	48.48	3.50	2018-06-14	24

Task B: ALTER using DROP COLUMN

1. Delete the **PROFIT** column from the **PETSALE** table and show the altered table. Copy the code below and paste it to the textbox of the **Run SQL** page. Click **Run all**.

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
1. ALTER TABLE PETSALE
2. DROP COLUMN PROFIT;
3.
4. SELECT * FROM PETSALE;
```

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The screenshot shows the IBM Db2 on Cloud SQL editor interface. The left sidebar has a 'Data objects' tab selected, showing a tree view with 'DMT80331'. The main editor area has a tab titled '*Untitled ...' with the following SQL code:

```
1 ALTER TABLE PETSALE
2 DROP COLUMN PROFIT;
3
4 SELECT * FROM PETSALE;
```

The 'Results' tab is active, displaying 'Result set 1' with a table of 5 rows and 5 columns: ID, PET, SALEPRICE, SALEDATE, and QUANTITY.

ID	PET	SALEPRICE	SALEDATE	QUANTITY
1	Cat	450.09	2018-05-29	9
2	Dog	666.66	2018-06-01	3
3	Parrot	50.00	2018-06-04	2
4	Hamster	60.60	2018-06-11	6
5	Goldfish	48.48	2018-06-14	24

Task C: ALTER using ALTER COLUMN

1. Change the data type to **VARCHAR(20)** type of the column **PET** of the table **PETSALE** and show the altered table. Copy the code below and paste it to the textbox of the **Run SQL** page. Click **Run all**.

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
1. ALTER TABLE PETSALE
2. ALTER COLUMN PET SET DATA TYPE VARCHAR(20);
3.
4. SELECT * FROM PETSALE;
```

Copied!

The screenshot shows the IBM Db2 on Cloud SQL editor interface. The left sidebar has a 'Data objects' tab selected, showing a tree view with 'DMT80331'. The main editor area has a tab titled '*Untitled ...' with the following SQL code:

```
1 ALTER TABLE PETSALE
2 ALTER COLUMN PET SET DATA TYPE VARCHAR(20);
3
4 SELECT * FROM PETSALE;
```

The 'Results' tab is active, displaying 'Result set 1' with a table of 5 rows and 5 columns: ID, PET, SALEPRICE, SALEDATE, and QUANTITY.

ID	PET	SALEPRICE	SALEDATE	QUANTITY
1	Cat	450.09	2018-05-29	9
2	Dog	666.66	2018-06-01	3
3	Parrot	50.00	2018-06-04	2
4	Hamster	60.60	2018-06-11	6
5	Goldfish	48.48	2018-06-14	24

2. Now verify if the data type of the column **PET** of the table **PETSALE** changed to **VARCHAR(20)** type or not. Click on the Data Section in the left menu bar.

The screenshot shows the IBM Db2 on Cloud SQL editor interface. The left sidebar has a 'Data objects' tab selected, showing a tree view with 'DMT80331'. The 'Data' section is highlighted in the left sidebar, indicating the user is navigating to the data section to verify the column data type.

Then click on Tables:

IBM Db2 on Cloud

Load Data Load History **Tables** Views Indexes Aliases

SQL

Source Target

You are loading the file

My Computer

A single delimited text file (CSV) without header row.

File selection

Find your schema and choose the table **PETSALE**

IBM Db2 on Cloud

Load Data Load History **Tables** Views Indexes Aliases MQTs Sequences Application objects

Find schemas or tables Refresh

Schemas

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name	Definer type	Tables
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DMT80331	User	3

Total: 1, selected: 1

Tables

New table +

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Schema	Properties
<input type="checkbox"/>	BILLING_TEST	DMT80331	...
<input type="checkbox"/>	PET	DMT80331	...
<input type="checkbox"/>	PETSALE	DMT80331	...

Total: 3, selected: 0

You will see that the datatype of the column **PET** has changed to **VARCHAR(20)**

IBM Db2 on Cloud

Load Data Load History **Tables** Views Indexes Aliases MQTs Sequences Application objects

Find schemas or tables Refresh

Schemas

Tables

New table +

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Schema	Properties
<input type="checkbox"/>	BILLING_TEST	DMT80331	...
<input type="checkbox"/>	PET	DMT80331	...
<input type="checkbox"/>	PETSALE	DMT80331	...

Total: 3, selected: 0

Table definition

PETSALE

Approximate 5 rows (32.0 KB)
Updated on 2023-04-21 10:45:45

Name	Data type	Nullable	Length	Scale
ID	INTEGER	N		0
PET	VARCHAR	Y	20	0
SALEPRICE	DECIMAL	Y	6	2
SALEDATE	DATE	Y	4	0
QUANTITY	INTEGER	Y		0

View data

Task D: ALTER using RENAME COLUMN

1. In the **PETSALE** table, rename the column **PET** to **ANIMAL** and show the altered table. Copy the code below and paste it to the textbox of the **Run SQL** page. Click **Run all**.

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
1. ALTER TABLE PETSALE
2. RENAME COLUMN PET TO ANIMAL;
3.
4. SELECT * FROM PETSALE;
```

Copied!

IBM Db2 on Cloud

Data objects Saved objects

Find objects

SQL

DMT80331

*Untitled ... x +

Syntax assistant

Run all

History Results

Result set 1 Details

Filter table

Total:5

ID	ANIMAL	SALEPRICE	SALEDATE	QUANTITY
1	Cat	450.09	2018-05-29	9
2	Dog	666.66	2018-06-01	3
3	Parrot	50.00	2018-06-04	2
4	Hamster	60.60	2018-06-11	6
5	Goldfish	48.48	2018-06-14	24

In this exercise, you will use the TRUNCATE statement to remove all rows from an existing table created in exercise 1 without deleting the table itself.

1. Remove all rows from the **PET** table and show the empty table. Copy the code below and paste it to the textbox of the **Run SQL** page. Click **Run all**. You will see **no data in the Result section**.

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
1. TRUNCATE TABLE PET IMMEDIATE;
2.
3. SELECT * FROM PET;
```

Copied!

IBM Db2 on Cloud

Data objects Saved objects

Find objects

SQL

DMT80331

*Untitled ... x +

Syntax assistant

Run all

History Results

Result set 1 Details

Filter table

Total:0

You don't have any data currently

In this exercise, you will use the DROP statement to delete an existing table created in exercise 1.

1. Delete the **PET** table and verify if the table still exists or not (SELECT statement won't work if a table doesn't exist). Copy the code below and paste it to the textbox of the **Run SQL** page. Click **Run all**. You will see that the **select statement fails**.

```
1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
1. DROP TABLE PET;
2.
3. SELECT * FROM PET;
```

Copied!

IBM Db2 on Cloud

Data objects Saved objects

Find objects

SQL

DMT80331

*Untitled ... x +

Syntax assistant

Run all

History Results

Find history

Script	Date	Status	Runtime
^ Untitled - 1	Apr 21, 2023 4:20:00 PM	1 1	0.071 s
DROP TABLE PET			0.051 s
SELECT * FROM PET			0.020 s

Congratulations! You have completed this Lab. You are ready for the next topic.

Author(s)

- [Sandip Saha Joy](#)

Changelog

Date	Version	Changed by	Change Description
2023-04-21	1.2	Shreya Khurana	Updated screenshots and instructions
2020-12-24	1.1	Steve Ryan	ID reviewed

Date	Version	Changed by	Change Description
2020-12-07	1.0	Sandip Saha Joy	Initial version created

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