Creating Tables: CREATE TABLE

The CREATE TABLE statement defines a new table structure in your database.

Basic Syntax:

```
CREATE TABLE table_name (
    column1 datatype constraints,
    column2 datatype constraints,
    ...
);
```

Example 1: E-commerce Products Table

```
CREATE TABLE products (
   product_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
   name VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
   price DECIMAL(10,2) NOT NULL,
   stock_quantity INT DEFAULT 0,
   added_date DATE NOT NULL,
   is_active BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE
);
```

Example 2: Social Media Users Table

```
CREATE TABLE users (
    user_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
    username VARCHAR(50) UNIQUE NOT NULL,
    email VARCHAR(100) UNIQUE NOT NULL,
    password_hash VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,
    join_date DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
    is_verified BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE
);
```

Example 3: Hospital Patients Table

```
CREATE TABLE patients (
   patient_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
   first_name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
   last_name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
   birth_date DATE NOT NULL,
   blood_type VARCHAR(3),
   last_visit_date DATE,
   has_insurance BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE
);
```

Data Types

Numeric Types

1. **INT** - Whole numbers (-2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647)

```
age INT NOT NULL
```

2. **FLOAT/DOUBLE** - Floating-point numbers

```
temperature FLOAT
```

3. **DECIMAL** - Fixed-point numbers (for precise values like money)

```
DECIMAL(10,2) -- 10 digits total, 2 after decimal
```

String Types

1. **VARCHAR(n)** - Variable-length strings (1-65,535 characters)

```
username VARCHAR(50)
```

2. **CHAR(n)** - Fixed-length strings (pads with spaces)

country_code CHAR(2) -- Like 'US', 'CA'

3. **TEXT** - Long text (up to 65,535 characters)

article_content TEXT

Date/Time Types

1. **DATE** - Stores date only in the format YYYY-MM-DD

birth_date DATE

2. DATETIME - Stores date and time in the format YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS

created_at DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP

3. TIMESTAMP - Stores a Unix timestamp and auto-updates on record change

last_updated TIMESTAMP ON UPDATE CURRENT_TIMESTAMP

Boolean

1. **BOOLEAN/TINYINT(1)** - True/False values

is_active BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE

Table Constraints

PRIMARY KEY

Uniquely identifies each record in a table.

• Single column:

product_id INT PRIMARY KEY

• Auto-incrementing primary key:

```
order_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY
```

• Composite key (multiple columns):

```
PRIMARY KEY (student_id, course_id)
```

AUTO_INCREMENT

Automatically generates sequential numbers for a column.

• Simple auto-increment:

```
customer_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY
```

• Starting from a specific number (MySQL syntax):

```
invoice_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY START WITH 1000
```

• With specific increment:

```
log_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY INCREMENT BY 2
```

NOT NULL

Ensures a column cannot contain NULL values.

• Required name field:

```
first_name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL
```

• Mandatory date field:

```
order_date DATE NOT NULL
```

• Essential numeric field:

```
quantity INT NOT NULL
```

DEFAULT

Sets a default value if no value is provided during insert.

• Default quantity:

```
stock INT DEFAULT 0
```

• Default timestamp:

```
created_at DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP
```

• Default status:

```
status VARCHAR(20) DEFAULT 'pending'
```

UNIQUE

Ensures all values in a column (or combination) are different.

• Unique email:

```
email VARCHAR(100) UNIQUE
```

• Unique product code:

```
sku VARCHAR(20) UNIQUE
```

• Unique combination of columns:

```
UNIQUE (department_id, employee_code)
```

Complete Real-World Examples

Example 1: Online Banking System

```
CREATE TABLE accounts (
    account_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
    account_number VARCHAR(20) UNIQUE NOT NULL,
    customer_id INT NOT NULL,
    account_type VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,
    balance DECIMAL(15,2) DEFAULT 0.00,
    opened_date DATE NOT NULL,
    is_active BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,
    FOREIGN KEY (customer_id) REFERENCES customers(customer_id)
);
```

Example 2: University Course Registration

```
CREATE TABLE courses (
    course_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
    course_code VARCHAR(10) UNIQUE NOT NULL,
    title VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
    credits TINYINT NOT NULL,
    department_id INT NOT NULL,
    max_capacity INT DEFAULT 30,
    is_offered BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,
    CONSTRAINT chk_credits CHECK (credits BETWEEN 1 AND 5)
);
```

Example 3: Inventory Management

```
CREATE TABLE inventory (
item_id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
sku VARCHAR(15) UNIQUE NOT NULL,
name VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
category VARCHAR(30) NOT NULL,
supplier_id INT NOT NULL,
unit_price DECIMAL(10,2) NOT NULL,
quantity_in_stock INT DEFAULT 0,
```

```
reorder_level INT DEFAULT 10,
last_restocked DATE,
FOREIGN KEY (supplier_id) REFERENCES suppliers(supplier_id)
);
```