



SQL Joins: ON DELETE CASCADE, ON UPDATE CASCADE

```
CREATE TABLE Payment
(
  payment_id int(10) PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,
  emp_id int(10) NOT NULL,
  amount float NOT NULL,
  payment_date date NOT NULL,
  FOREIGN KEY (emp_id)
  REFERENCES Employee (emp_id) ON DELETE CASCADE ON UPDATE CASCADE
  -- ask this to your manager before implementing
);
```

MYSQL ON DELETE CASCADE

ON DELETE CASCADE clause in MySQL is used to automatically remove the **matching records** from the child table when we **delete the rows** from the parent table.

Suppose we have created two tables with a FOREIGN KEY in a foreign key relationship, making both tables a parent and child. Next, we define an **ON DELETE CASCADE** clause for one **FOREIGN KEY** that must be set for the other to succeed in the cascading operations.

If the **ON DELETE CASCADE** is defined for one **FOREIGN KEY** clause only, then cascading operations will throw an error.

EXAMPLE

- TABLE EMPLOYEE

```
CREATE TABLE Employee (
  emp_id int(10) NOT NULL,
  name varchar(40) NOT NULL,
  birthdate date NOT NULL,
  gender varchar(10) NOT NULL,
  hire_date date NOT NULL,
  PRIMARY KEY (emp_id)
);
```

```
mysql> SELECT * FROM Employee;
```

emp_id	name	birthdate	gender	hire_date
101	Bryan	1988-08-12	M	2015-08-26
102	Joseph	1978-05-12	M	2014-10-21
103	Mike	1984-10-13	M	2017-10-28
104	Daren	1979-04-11	M	2006-11-01
105	Marie	1990-02-11	F	2018-10-12

- TABLE PAYMENT

```
CREATE TABLE Payment (
  payment_id int(10) PRIMARY KEY NOT NULL,
  emp_id int(10) NOT NULL,
  amount float NOT NULL,
  payment_date date NOT NULL,
  FOREIGN KEY (emp_id) REFERENCES Employee (emp_id) ON DELETE CASCADE
);
```

```
mysql> SELECT * FROM Payment;
```

payment_id	emp_id	amount	payment_date
301	101	1200	2015-09-15
302	101	1200	2015-09-30
303	101	1500	2015-10-15
304	101	1500	2015-10-30
305	102	1800	2015-09-15
306	102	1800	2015-09-30

- Let us delete data from the parent table Employee. To do this, execute the following statement:

```
DELETE FROM Employee WHERE emp_id = 102;
```

The above statement will delete the employee records whose emp_id = 102 and referencing data into the child table.

- NOW USE SELECT STATEMENT TO VERIFY

```
SELECT * FROM EMPLOYEE;
```

```
SELECT * FROM PAYMENT;
```

```
mysql> SELECT * FROM Employee;
```

emp_id	name	birthdate	gender	hire_date
101	Bryan	1988-08-12	M	2015-08-26
103	Mike	1984-10-13	M	2017-10-28
104	Daren	1979-04-11	M	2006-11-01
105	Marie	1990-02-11	F	2018-10-12

4 rows in set (0.00 sec)

```
mysql> SELECT * FROM Payment;
```

payment_id	emp_id	amount	payment_date
301	101	1200	2015-09-15
302	101	1200	2015-09-30
303	101	1500	2015-10-15
304	101	1500	2015-10-30

In the above output, we can see that all the rows referencing to emp_id = 102 were automatically deleted from both tables.

As you will work with millions of data so there will be a lot of tables so to see from which table your record is deleted.

How to find the affected table by ON DELETE CASCADE action?

- Sometimes, before deleting records from the table, we want to know the affected table by the ON DELETE CASCADE referential action. We can find this information by querying from the referential_constraints in the information_schema database as follows:

```
USE information_schema;

SELECT table_name FROM referential_constraints
WHERE constraint_schema = 'database_name'
  AND referenced_table_name = 'parent_table'
  AND delete_rule = 'CASCADE'
```

◦ EXAMPLE:

```
USE information_schema;

SELECT table_name FROM referential_constraints
WHERE constraint_schema = 'employeedb'
  AND referenced_table_name = 'Employee'
  AND delete_rule = 'CASCADE';
```

```
mysql> USE information_schema;
Database changed
mysql> SELECT table_name FROM referential_constraints
      -> WHERE constraint_schema = 'employeedb'
      ->           AND referenced_table_name = 'Employee'
      ->           AND delete_rule = 'CASCADE';
+-----+
| TABLE_NAME |
+-----+
| payment     |
+-----+
```

ON UPDATE CASCADE

`ON UPDATE CASCADE` is a referential integrity constraint that tells the database to automatically update the corresponding rows in a child table when a row in the parent table is updated. This ensures that the data in the two tables remains consistent.

Here is an example of how to use the `ON UPDATE CASCADE` clause:

```
CREATE TABLE departments (  
  id INT NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,  
  name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL  
);  
  
CREATE TABLE employees (  
  id INT NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,  
  name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,  
  department_id INT NOT NULL REFERENCES departments (id) ON UPDATE CASCADE  
);
```

In this example, the `ON UPDATE CASCADE` clause on the `department_id` column in the `employees` table tells the database that when the `department_id` column in the `departments` table is updated, the corresponding rows in the `employees` table will also be updated to reflect the new department ID.

For example, if we update the `department_id` column in the `departments` table to 10, all rows in the `employees` table where the `department_id` column is currently 10 will also be updated to 10.

The `ON UPDATE CASCADE` clause is a powerful tool that can be used to ensure that the data in related tables is always consistent.

Here is an explanation of the `ON UPDATE CASCADE` clause:

- `ON UPDATE` specifies that the constraint is triggered when a row in the parent table is updated.
- `CASCADE` specifies that the corresponding rows in the child table are updated to reflect the changes in the parent table.