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Cannot declare variable in MySQL trigger

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I am having difficulty creating the following trigger in MySQL:

```
1 CREATE TRIGGER TRG_COMPLETE_REMINDER
  AFTER UPDATE ON reminders
  FOR EACH ROW
  BEGIN
    DECLARE
      new_date DATE;
    IF (NEW.complete = 1 AND recurrence <> 'NONE') THEN
      CASE recurrence
        WHEN '1 WEEK' THEN
          SELECT INTO new_date NEW.date + INTERVAL 7 DAY;
        WHEN '1 MONTH' THEN
          SELECT INTO new_date NEW.date + INTERVAL 1 MONTH;
        WHEN '3 MONTH' THEN
          SELECT INTO new_date NEW.date + INTERVAL 3 MONTH;
        END CASE;

      INSERT INTO reminders (description, date, userID, complete, recurrence)
      VALUES (NEW.description, new_date, NEW.userID, 0, NEW.recurrence);
    END IF;
  END;
```

The issue seems to be occurring where I attempt to declare `new_date`. MySQL returns the following error message:

#1064 - You have an error in your SQL syntax; check the manual that corresponds to your MySQL server version for the right syntax to use near 'INTO new_date NEW.date + INTERVAL 7 DAY' at line 8

I would like this trigger to create a new reminder record when the `complete` attribute changes to 1. The new record should have a date greater than the original record, depending on the value stored in `recurrence`.

mysql sql triggers

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Your select is the wrong way round it should be `SELECT value INTO variable` - I don't know if that solves everything. You could also do `SET new_date = NEW.date + INTERVAL 7 DAY;` – [PaulF](#) Jun 6 '16 at 15:54

@PaulF You are right, but this does not fix the DECLARE issue. – [Matthew Fisher](#) Jun 6 '16 at 15:57

What error do you get on the DECLARE - the error you reported was related to the incorrect SELECT INTO syntax only. – [PaulF](#) Jun 6 '16 at 16:00

1 Have you changed the delimiter from ; – [PaulF](#) Jun 6 '16 at 16:03

1 @ÁlvaroGonzález there were two issues in the problem though, so not completely duplicate - originally OP reported the SELECT INTO syntax error before the edit to show the error at line #6. – [PaulF](#) Jun 6 '16 at 16:10

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2 Answers

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Two corrections fixed the issue:

1. Correcting the order of clauses in the `SELECT` statement (i.e. moving `INTO new_date` after `SELECT new_date + INTERVAL 7 DAY`)
2. Adding `DELIMITER //` before creating the trigger

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answered Jun 6 '16 at 16:17

[Matthew Fisher](#)
22 8

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Rather than use a variable you can use a [CASE expression](#) right in the INSERT statement:

```
1 CREATE TRIGGER TRG_COMPLETE_REMINDER
  AFTER UPDATE ON reminders
  FOR EACH ROW
  BEGIN
    IF (NEW.complete = 1 AND NEW.recurrence <> 'NONE') THEN
      INSERT INTO reminders
      (description,
      date,
      userID,
      complete, recurrence)
      VALUES
      (NEW.description,
      CASE NEW.recurrence
        WHEN '1 WEEK' THEN
          NEW.date + INTERVAL 7 DAY
        WHEN '1 MONTH' THEN
          NEW.date + INTERVAL 1 MONTH
        WHEN '3 MONTH' THEN
          NEW.date + INTERVAL 3 MONTH
        ELSE
          NULL
      END,
      NEW.userID, 0,
      NEW.recurrence);
    END IF;
  END;
```

Best of luck.

share improve this answer

answered Jun 6 '16 at 16:45

[Bob Jarvis](#)
33.9k 5 57 85

This a helpful variation - thank you! – [Matthew Fisher](#) Jun 6 '16 at 17:24

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