# **Pseudo Columns -- RowID & RowNum**

They are also both referred to as pseudo-columns. That is, they are not "real" columns that will show up when you DESC a table. They don't actually exist anywhere in the database. But they're available for you to use.  
  
In fact, ROWNUM only exists for a row once it is retrieved from a query. It represents the sequential order in which Oracle has retrieved the row. Therefore it will always exist, be at least 1, and be unique (among the rows returned by the query). Obviously it will change from query-to-query. Let's look at a quick example:

SQL> SELECT **ROWNUM**, ENAME, SAL  
 2 FROM EMP;  
  
 ROWNUM ENAME SAL  
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 1 SMITH 800  
 2 ALLEN 1600  
 3 WARD 1250  
 4 JONES 2975  
 5 MARTIN 1250  
 6 BLAKE 2850  
 7 CLARK 2450  
 8 SCOTT 3000  
 9 VOLLMAN 5000  
 10 TURNER 1500  
 11 ADAMS 1100  
 12 JAMES 950  
 13 FORD 3000  
 14 MILLER 1300

**ROWID** actually represents the physical location of the record/row in the database. Since it actually represents the physical location of a row, no two rows within the same table will have the same ROWID.

Rowid is a **unique hexadecimal format integer** that is created by database like oracle immediately for each row .