(My)SQL Cheat Sheet

Here are the most commonly used SQL commands and the most commonly used options for each. There are many more commands and options than listed here. In other words, the syntaxes as I have listed them are far from complete. See the links at the bottom for more complete syntaxes and more commands.

MySQL Command-Line			
What	How	Example(s)	
Running MySQL	mysql -u <i>username</i> -p <i>password</i>	mysql -ucusack2RO -pegbdf5s	
Importing	mysql -u <i>username</i> -p <i>password</i> < <i>filename</i>	$mysql \ \hbox{-usomeDB -pblah} \le myNewDB.sql$	
Dumping (Saving)	mysqldump -uusername -ppassword database [tables] > filename	mysqldump -ume -pblah myDB > My.sql mysqldump -ume -pblah myDB table1 table2 > my.sql	

Common MySQL Column Types			
Purpose	Data Type	Example	
Integers	int(M)	int(5)	
Floating-point (real) numbers	float(M,D)	float(12,3)	
Double-precision floating-point	double(M,D)	double(20,3)	
Dates and times	timestamp(M)	timestamp(8) (for YYYYMMDD) timestamp(12) (for YYYYMMDDHHMMSS)	
Fixed-length strings	char(M)	char(10)	
Variable-length strings	varchar(M)	varchar(20)	
A large amount of text	blob	blob	
Values chosen from a list	enum('value1',value2',)	enum('apples','oranges','bananas')	
M is maximum to display, and D is precision to the right of the decimal.			

MySQL Mathematical Functions		MySQL String Functions	
What	How	What	How
Count rows per group	COUNT(column *)	Compare strings	strcmp(string1,string2)
Average value of group	AVG(column)	Convert to lower case	lower(string)
Minumum value of group	MIN(column)	Convert to upper case	upper(string)
Maximum value of group	MAX(column)	Left-trim whitespace (similar right)	ltrim(string)
Sum values in a group	SUM(column)	Substring of string	substring(string,index1,index2)
Absolute value	abs(number)	Encrypt password	password(string)
Rounding numbers	round(number)	Encode string	encode(string,key)
Largest integer not greater	floor(number)	Decode string	decode(string,key)
Smallest integer not smaller	ceiling(number)	Get date	curdate()
Square root	sqrt(number)	Get time	curtime()
<i>n</i> th power	pow(base,exponent)	Extract day name from date string	dayname(string)
random number n , $0 < n < 1$	rand()	Extract day number from date string	dayofweek(string)

Basic MySQL Commands			
What	How	Example(s)	
List all databases	SHOW DATABASES;	SHOW DATABASES;	
Create database	CREATE DATABASE database;	CREATE DATABASE PhoneDB;	
Use a database	USE database;	USE PhonDB;	
List tables in the database	SHOW TABLES;	SHOW TABLES;	
Show the structure of a table		DESCRIBE Animals; SHOW COLUMNS FROM Animals;	
Delete a database (Careful!)	DROP DATABASE database;	DROP DATABASE PhoneDB;	

	SQL Commands: Modifying		
What	How	Example(s)	
Create table	CREATE TABLE table (column1 type [[NOT] NULL] [AUTO_INCREMENT], column2 type [[NOT] NULL] [AUTO_INCREMENT], other options, PRIMARY KEY (column(s)));	CREATE TABLE Students (LastName varchar(30) NOT NULL, FirstName varchar(30) NOT NULL, StudentID int NOT NULL, Major varchar(20), Dorm varchar(20), PRIMARY KEY (StudentID));	
Insert data	INSERT INTO table VALUES (list of values); INSERT INTO table SET column1=value1, column2=value2, columnk=valuek; INSERT INTO table (column1,column2,) VALUES (value1,value2);	INSERT INTO Students VALUES ('Smith','John',123456789,'Math','Selleck'); INSERT INTO Students SET FirstName='John', LastName='Smith', StudentID=123456789, Major='Math'; INSERT INTO Students (StudentID,FirstName,LastName) VALUES (123456789,'John','Smith');	
Insert/Select	INSERT INTO table (column1,column2,) SELECT statement; (See below)	INSERT INTO Students (StudentID,FirstName,LastName) SELECT StudentID,FirstName,LastName FROM OtherStudentTable; WHERE LastName like '%son';	
Delete data	DELETE FROM table [WHERE condition(s)]; (Omit WHERE to delete all data)	DELETE FROM Students WHERE LastName='Smith'; DELETE FROM Students WHERE LastName like '%Smith%'; AND FirstName='John'; DELETE FROM Students;	
Updating Data	UPDATE table SET column1=value1, column2=value2, columnk=valuek [WHERE condition(s)];	UPDATE Students SET LastName='Jones' WHERE StudentID=987654321; UPDATE Students SET LastName='Jones', Major='Theatre' WHERE StudentID=987654321 OR (MAJOR='Art' AND FirstName='Pete');	
Insert column	ALTER TABLE table ADD COLUMN column type options;	ALTER TABLE Students ADD COLUMN Hometown varchar(20);	

Delete column ALTER TABLE table ALTER TABLE Students
DROP COLUMN column; DROP COLUMN Dorm;

Delete table (Careful!) DROP TABLE [IF EXISTS] table; DROP TABLE Animals;

SQL Commands: Querying			
What	How	Example(s)	
All columns	SELECT * FROM table;	SELECT * FROM Students;	
Some columns	SELECT column1,column2, FROM table;	SELECT LastName, FirstName FROM Students;	
Some rows/ columns	SELECT column1,column2, FROM table [WHERE condition(s)];	SELECT LastName,FirstName FROM Students WHERE StudentID LIKE '%123%';	
No Repeats	SELECT [DISTINCT] column(s) FROM table;	SELECT DISTINCT LastName FROM Students;	
Ordering	SELECT column1,column2, FROM table [ORDER BY column(s) [DESC]];	SELECT LastName,FirstName FROM Students ORDER BY LastName, FirstName DESC;	
Column Aliases	SELECT column1 [AS alias1], column2 [AS alias2], FROM table1;	SELECT LastName,FirstName AS First FROM Students;	
Grouping	SELECT column1,column2, FROM table [GROUP BY column(s)];	SELECT LastName,COUNT(*) FROM Students GROUP BY LastName;	
Group Filtering	SELECT column1,column2, FROM table [GROUP BY column(s)] [HAVING condition(s)];	SELECT LastName,COUNT(*) FROM Students GROUP BY LastName HAVING LastName like '%son';	
Joins	SELECT column1,column2, FROM table1,table2, [WHERE condition(s)];	SELECT LastName,Points FROM Students,Assignments WHERE AssignmentID=12 AND Students.StudentID=Assignments.StudentID;	
Table Aliases	SELECT column1,column2, FROM table1 [alias1], table2 [alias2], [WHERE condition(s)];	SELECT LastName,Points FROM Students S,Assignments A WHERE S.StudentID=A.StudentID AND A.AssignmentID=12;	
Everything	SELECT [DISTINCT] column1 [AS alias1], column2 [AS alias2], FROM table1 [alias1], table2 [alias2], [WHERE condition(s)] [GROUP BY column(s)] [HAVING condition(s)] [ORDER BY column(s) [DESC]];	SELECT Points, COUNT(*) AS Cnt FROM Students S,Assignments A WHERE S.StudentID=A.StudentID AND A.AssignmentID=12 GROUP BY Points HAVING Points > 10 ORDER BY Cnt, Points DESC;	

For more details, see the following pages from MySQL.com.

- MySQL Reference Manual
- MySQL Column Types
- SHOW syntax
- CREATE TABLE syntax
- <u>ALTER TABLE syntax</u>
- <u>INSERT syntax</u>

- DELETE syntaxUPDATE syntax

- SELECT syntax
 INSERT ... SELECT syntax
 MySQL Functions