☰ 🍃 DB (http://www.mongodb.org/)   [Search]

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(http://www.mongodb.org/get-involved)   Blog (http://blog.mongodb.org)

(https://github.com/mongodb/docs/blob/master/source/tutorial/remove-documents.txt)

MongoDB CRUD Operations (../../crud/) > MongoDB CRUD Tutorials (../../applications/crud/) > Remove Documents

Remove Documents

In MongoDB, the `db.collection.remove()`
(../../reference/method/db.collection.remove/#db.collection.remove) method removes documents from a
collection. You can remove all documents from a collection, remove all documents that match a condition,
or limit the operation to remove just a single document.

This tutorial provides examples of remove operations using the `db.collection.remove()`
(../../reference/method/db.collection.remove/#db.collection.remove) method in the `mongo`
(../../reference/program/mongo/#bin.mongo) shell.

Remove All Documents

To remove all documents from a collection, pass an empty query document {} to the `remove()`
(../../reference/method/db.collection.remove/#db.collection.remove) method. The `remove()`
(../../reference/method/db.collection.remove/#db.collection.remove) method does not remove the indexes.

The following example removes all documents from the `inventory` collection:

```
db.inventory.remove({})
```

To remove all documents from a collection, it may be more efficient to use the `drop()`
(../../reference/method/db.collection.drop/#db.collection.drop) method to drop the entire collection,
including the indexes, and then recreate the collection and rebuild the indexes.

⚙ OPTIONS   ^

Remove Documents that Match a Condition

To remove the documents that match a deletion criteria, call the `remove()`
(../../reference/method/db.collection.remove/#db.collection.remove) method with the `<query>` parameter.

The following example removes all documents from the `inventory` collection where the `type` field
equals `food`:

```
db.inventory.remove( { type : "food" } )
```

For large deletion operations, it may be more efficient to copy the documents that you want to keep to a
new collection and then use `drop()` (../../reference/method/db.collection.drop/#db.collection.drop) on the
original collection.

Remove a Single Document that Matches a Condition

To remove a single document, call the `remove()` (../../reference/method/db.collection.remove/#db.collection.remove) method with the `justOne` parameter set to `true` or `1`.

The following example removes one document from the `inventory` collection where the `type` field equals `food`:

```
db.inventory.remove( { type : "food" }, 1 )
```

To delete a single document sorted by some specified order, use the findAndModify() (../../reference/method/db.collection.findAndModify/#findandmodify-wrapper-sorted-remove) method.