DELETE statement

DELETE statement is used to remove rows from a table.

**syntax:**

DELETE FROM table\_name

[WHERE where\_condition]

**Example: MySQL DELETE specific rows or records**

The following statement will remove those records from the 'newcate' table which satisfies the condition 'cate\_id' = 'CA002'.

Sample table: newcate

Code:

DELETE FROM newcate

WHERE cate\_id='CA002';

**Example: MySQL DELETE all rows or records**

If not accompanied by any condition about which rows are to be removed, MySQL DELETE statement removes all records or rows from a table. The following statement will remove all the rows or records from 'Newcate' table.

Code:

DELETE FROM Newcate;

**Example: MySQL DELETE with ORDER BY for limited number of rows**

ORDER BY and LIMIT keyword can be used with MySQL DELETE statement to remove only a given number of rows, where columns are sorted in a specific order. The ORDER BY clause sorts the columns in a specific order and the LIMIT keyword deletes only the number rows mentioned by the numeric value immediately followed by LIMIT keyword. See the following example:

Sample table : newauthor

Code:

DELETE FROM newauthor

ORDER BY country DESC LIMIT 2;

The statement above will do the following:  
**1.** order the rows of 'newauthor' table in descending order according to column 'country', **2.**delete only two(2) rows for each 'country'**.**

**Difference between TRUNCATE and DELETE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TRUNCATE** | **DELETE** |
| It is a DDL command (i.e. a command used to define the database structure or schema) and once you have deleted the rows using it, you can not use the ROLLBACK to undo the task. | It is a DML command (i.e. a command used for managing data) and can be rolled back. |
| You can't use WHERE clause. | You can use WHERE clause. |
| Faster than DELETE. | Slower than TRUNCATE. |

**Syntax:**

TRUNCATE table<table\_name>

Where table\_name indicates name of the table

**Example: MySQL TRUNCATE table**

The following MySQL statement will delete all the rows from the newauthor table.

Sample table: newauthor

Code:

TRUNCATE TABLE newauthor;