



SQL | ALTER (RENAME)

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Sometimes we may want to rename our table to give it a more relevant name. For this purpose, we can use **ALTER TABLE** to rename the name of the table. SQL ALTER TABLE is a command used to modify the structure of an existing table in a database.

Note: Syntax may vary in different databases.

Syntax(Oracle,MySQL,MariaDB):

```
ALTER TABLE table_name
```

```
RENAME TO new_table_name;
```

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Columns can also be given a new name with the use of **ALTER TABLE**.

Syntax(MySQL, Oracle):

```
ALTER TABLE table_name
```

```
RENAME COLUMN old_name TO new_name;
```

Syntax(MariaDB):

```
ALTER TABLE table_name
```

CHANGE COLUMN old_name TO new_name;

Query:

```
CREATE TABLE Student (  
    id INT PRIMARY KEY,  
    name VARCHAR(50),  
    age INT,  
    email VARCHAR(50),  
    phone VARCHAR(20)  
);
```

Let's insert some data and then perform ALTER operation to understand better about alter command.

INSERT:

```
INSERT INTO Student (id, name, age, email, phone)  
VALUES  
(1, 'Amit', 20, 'amit@gmail.com', '9999999999'),  
(2, 'Rahul', 22, 'rahul@yahoo.com', '8888888888'),  
(3, 'Priya', 21, 'priya@hotmail.com', '7777777777'),  
(4, 'Sonia', 23, 'sonia@gmail.com', '6666666666'),  
(5, 'Kiran', 19, 'kiran@yahoo.com', '5555555555');
```

Output:

id	name	age	email	phone
1	Shubham	23	shubham@gmail.com	9999999999
2	Bhavika	21	bhavika@yahoo.com	8888888888
3	Aman	21	aman@hotmail.com	7777777777
4	Sonia	23	sonia@gmail.com	6666666666
5	Kiran	19	kiran@yahoo.com	5555555555

Example 1:

Change the name of column name to FIRST_NAME in table Student.

Syntax:

ALTER TABLE Student RENAME COLUMN NAME TO FIRST_NAME;

Query:

```
ALTER TABLE Student RENAME name TO FIRST_NAME;
```

Output:

id	FIRST_NAME	age	email	phone
1	Shubham	23	shubham@gmail.com	9999999999
2	Bhavika	21	bhavika@yahoo.com	8888888888
3	Aman	21	aman@hotmail.com	7777777777
4	Sonia	23	sonia@gmail.com	6666666666
5	Kiran	19	kiran@yahoo.com	5555555555

Change the name of the table Student to Student_Details.

Query:

```
ALTER TABLE Student RENAME TO Student_Details;
```

Output:**Student_Details****Student_Details**

id	FIRST_NAME	age	email	phone
1	Shubham	23	shubham@gmail.com	9999999999
2	Bhavika	21	bhavika@yahoo.com	8888888888
3	Aman	21	aman@hotmail.com	7777777777
4	Sonia	23	sonia@gmail.com	6666666666
5	Kiran	19	kiran@yahoo.com	5555555555

To Add a New Column with ALTER TABLE

To add a new column to the existing table, we first need to select the table with ALTER TABLE command table_name, and then we will write the name of the new column and its datatype with ADD column_name datatype. Let's have a look below to understand better.

Syntax:

```
ALTER TABLE table_name
```

```
ADD column_name datatype;
```

Query:

```
ALTER TABLE Student ADD marks INT;
```

Output:

id	FIRST_NAME	age	email	phone	marks
1	Shubham	23	shubham@gmail.com	9999999999	
2	Bhavika	21	bhavika@yahoo.com	8888888888	
3	Aman	21	aman@hotmail.com	7777777777	
4	Sonia	23	sonia@gmail.com	6666666666	
5	Kiran	19	kiran@yahoo.com	5555555555	

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