# Database Design

Basic Table Modifications

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# Objectives

This lesson covers the following objectives:

- Add a new column to a table
- Use the DELETE and ALTER TABLE commands to correct mistakes or make revisions to a table

# Purpose

What if you were building a house and decided to change the placement of a window or door? If you change your mind or make a mistake, it would be nice to be able to easily remove or change a feature of the house.

Modifying a table addresses the same need when building a database. SQL anticipated this need and has commands to perform these functions.

# ALTER TABLE Syntax

To add a new column to a table, use the ALTER TABLE command. The syntax is:

```
ALTER TABLE <table name>
ADD (<new_column_name> <data type>);
```

# Drop a Column

To drop a column from a table, use the ALTER TABLE command. The syntax is:

```
ALTER TABLE <table name>
DROP COLUMN <column_name>;
```

# Delete a Row

To delete a row from a table, use the DELETE command. The syntax is:

```
DELETE from <table name>
WHERE <column_name> = 'some value';
```

# **Summary**

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Add a new column to a table
- Use the DELETE  and ALTER TABLE commands to correct mistakes or make revisions to a table