



MySQL DROP DATABASE

Summary: in this tutorial, you will learn how to use the MySQL `DROP DATABASE` statement to delete an existing database in the server.

Introduction to the MySQL DROP DATABASE statement

The `DROP DATABASE` statement drops all tables in the database and deletes the database permanently. Therefore, you need to be very careful when using this statement.

The following shows the syntax of the `DROP DATABASE` statement:

```
DROP DATABASE [IF EXISTS] database_name;
```

In this statement, you specify the name of the database which you want to delete after the `DROP DATABASE` keywords.

If you drop a database that does not exist, MySQL will issue an error.

To prevent an error from occurring if you delete a non-existing database, you can use the `IF EXISTS` option. In this case, MySQL will terminate the statement without issuing any error.

The `DROP DATABASE` statement returns the number of tables it deleted.

In MySQL, the schema is the synonym for the database. Therefore, you can use them interchangeably:

```
DROP SCHEMA [IF EXISTS] database_name;
```

In the next section, we will use the `testdb` and `testdb2` created in the [CREATE DATABASE](https://www.mysqltutorial.org/mysql-create-database/) (<https://www.mysqltutorial.org/mysql-create-database/>) tutorial. If you do not have these databases available, you can follow the [previous tutorial](https://www.mysqltutorial.org/mysql-create-database/) (<https://www.mysqltutorial.org/mysql-create-database/>) to create them.

MySQL DROP DATABASE using mysql program example

First, log in to the MySQL Server using the `root` user:

```
mysql -u root -p
```

Type the password for the `root` user and press Enter.

```
Enter password: *****
```

Second, display all the databases using the `SHOW DATABASES` (<https://www.mysqltutorial.org/mysql-show-databases/>) statement:

```
SHOW DATABASES;
```

Output:

```
+-----+
| Database          |
+-----+
| classicmodels     |
| information_schema |
| mysql              |
| performance_schema |
| sys                |
| testdb             |
| testdb2            |
+-----+
7 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

Third, drop the `testdb` database by issuing the `DROP DATABASE` statement:

```
DROP DATABASE testdb;
```

Output:

```
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.03 sec)
```

MySQL returned zero affected rows indicating that the `testdb` database has no tables.

DROP DATABASE using MySQL Workbench

First, launch the MySQL workbench and log in to the MySQL Server.

Second, right-click the database that you want to remove, for example, `testdb2` and choose the `Drop` `Schema...` option.

Third, MySQL Workbench displays a dialog to confirm the deletion.

If you choose **Review SQL**, you'll see the SQL statement that will be executed. If you choose **Drop Now**, it'll delete the database immediately.

To be safe, let's choose Review SQL:

Fourth, once you are sure that the SQL statement is going to drop the right database, you can click the **Execute** button to execute the statement.

MySQL returns the following output indicating that the database is dropped successfully. Because the `testdb2` is an empty database, the number of affected rows is zero.

If you view the **schemas** pane, you will see that the **testdb2** is not on the list anymore.

Summary

- Use the MySQL `DROP DATABASE` statement to delete a database.