

### MySQL / MODIFY ALTER TABLE Statements

The **ALTER TABLE** statement is used to add, delete, or modify columns in an existing table.

The **ALTER TABLE** statement is also used to add and drop various constraints on an existing table.

#### 10.1) ALTER TABLE - ADD Column

**ALTER TABLE** *table\_name* **ADD** *column\_name datatype*;

Ex:

ALTER TABLE Customer ADD Email VARCHAR(25);

Ex:

ALTER TABLE Customer ADD Description VARCHAR(50) FIRST;

Ex:

ALTER TABLE Customer ADD Location VARCHAR(50) AFTER Description;

#### 10.2) ALTER TABLE - DROP Column

**ALTER TABLE** *table\_name* **DROP COLUMN** *column\_name*;

Ex:

ALTER TABLE Customer DROP Email;

#### 10.3) ALTER TABLE - RENAME Column

**ALTER TABLE** *table\_name* **RENAME COLUMN** *old\_name* **TO** *new\_name*;

Ex:

ALTER TABLE Customer RENAME COLUMN Email TO Gmail;

#### 10.4) ALTER TABLE – ALTER/MODIFY DATA TYPE

**ALTER TABLE** *table\_name* **MODIFY COLUMN** *column\_name datatype*;

Ex:

ALTER TABLE Customer MODIFY COLUMN Email char(25);

#### 10.5) ALTER TABLE – RENAME TABLE NAME

**ALTER TABLE** *table\_name* **RENAME** *new\_table\_name*;

Ex:

ALTER TABLE Customer RENAME CustomerDetails;

## SQL Constraints

SQL constraints are used to specify rules for the data in a table.

Constraints are used to limit the type of data that can go into a table. This ensures the accuracy and reliability of the data in the table.

- NOT NULL - Ensures that a column cannot have a NULL value.

Ex: `nic VARCHAR(15) NOT NULL,`

- UNIQUE - Ensures that all values in a column are different.

Ex: `nic VARCHAR(15) UNIQUE,`

- UNIQUE NOT NULL - Ensures that all values in a column are different and a column cannot have a NULL value.

Ex: `nic VARCHAR(15) UNIQUE NOT NULL,`

- PRIMARY KEY - A combination of a **NOT NULL** and **UNIQUE**. And uniquely identifies each row in a table.

• Primary keys must contain UNIQUE values, and cannot contain NULL values.

• A table can have **only ONE primary key**; and in the table, this primary key can consist of single or multiple columns (fields).

Ex: `nic VARCHAR(15) PRIMARY KEY,`

- CONSTRAINT PRIMARY KEY - Another method of define the PRIMARY key field.

Ex:

```
CREATE TABLE Customer(  
  customerId VARCHAR(6),  
  name VARCHAR(30),  
  address VARCHAR(30),  
  salary FLOAT(10,2),  
  CONSTRAINT PRIMARY KEY (customerId)  
);
```

- CONSTRAINT COMPOSITE PRIMARY KEY - Another method of define the PRIMARY key field.

Ex:

```
CREATE TABLE Customer(  
  customerId VARCHAR(6),  
  name VARCHAR(30),  
  address VARCHAR(30),  
  salary FLOAT(10,2),  
  CONSTRAINT PRIMARY KEY (customerId, name)  
);
```

- FOREIGN KEY – The **FOREIGN KEY** constraint is a key used to link two tables together.

A **FOREIGN KEY** is a field (or collection of fields) in one table, that refers to the PRIMARY KEY in another table.

Ex:

```
CREATE TABLE Orders(  
    orderId VARCHAR(6),  
    date DATE,  
    customerId VARCHAR(6) NOT NULL,  
    CONSTRAINT PRIMARY KEY (orderId),  
    CONSTRAINT FOREIGN KEY(customerId) REFERENCES Customer(customerId)  
);
```

- CHECK - Ensures that the values in a column satisfies a specific condition.

Ex: **age** INT **CHECK** (age<=18),

Ex: **address** VARCHAR(30) **CHECK** (address="Galle"),

- DEFAULT - Sets a default value for a column if no value is specified.

Ex: **address** VARCHAR(30) **DEFAULT** 'Galle',

- ENUM - Sets predefined values for a column.

Ex: **gender** **ENUM** ('MALE','FEMALE','OTHER'),