

# Mongodb Primary Key: Example to set \_id field with ObjectId()

## Details


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## What is Primary Key in MongoDB?

In MongoDB, \_id field as the primary key for the collection so that each document can be uniquely identified in the collection. The \_id field contains a unique ObjectId value.

By default when inserting documents in the collection, if you don't add a field name with the \_id in the field name, then MongoDB will automatically add an Object id field as shown below

```
> db.Employee.find().forEach(printjson);
{
  "_id" : ObjectId("563479cc8a8a4246bd27d784"),
  "Employeeid" : 1,
  "EmployeeName" : "Smith"
}
{
  "_id" : ObjectId("563479d48a8a4246bd27d785"),
  "Employeeid" : 2,
  "EmployeeName" : "Mohan"
}
{
  "_id" : ObjectId("563479df8a8a4246bd27d786"),
  "Employeeid" : 3,
  "EmployeeName" : "Joe"
}
```



When you query the documents in a collection, you can see the ObjectId for each document in the collection.

If you want to ensure that MongoDB does not create the \_id Field when the collection is created and if you want to specify your own id as the \_id of the collection, then you need to explicitly define this while creating the collection.

When explicitly creating an id field, it needs to be created with \_id in its name.

Let's look at an example on how we can achieve this.

```
db.Employee.insert({_id:10, "EmployeeName" : "Smith"})
```

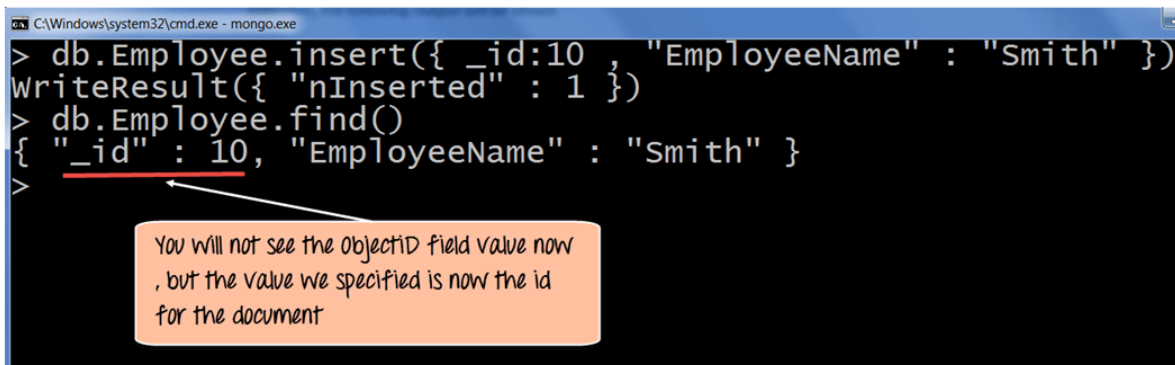
### Code Explanation:

1. We are assuming that we are creating the first document in the collection and hence in the above statement while creating the collection, we explicitly define the field \_id and define a value for it.

If the command is executed successfully and now use the find command to display the documents in the collection, the following Output will be shown

### Output:

Output:



```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe - mongo.exe
> db.Employee.insert({ _id:10 , "EmployeeName" : "Smith" })
WriteResult({ "nInserted" : 1 })
> db.Employee.find()
{ "_id" : 10, "EmployeeName" : "Smith" }
>
```

You will not see the ObjectID field value now , but the value we specified is now the id for the document

The output clearly shows that the `_id` field we defined while creating the collection is now used as the primary key for the collection.