**In Natural join , you need not to explicitly specify the matching column name**

**One significant difference between INNER JOIN and NATURAL JOIN is the number of columns returned.**

**Consider:**

**TableA TableB**

**+------------+----------+ +--------------------+**

**|Column1 | Column2 | |Column1 | Column3 |**

**+-----------------------+ +--------------------+**

**| 1 | 2 | | 1 | 3 |**

**+------------+----------+ +---------+----------+**

**The INNER JOIN of TableA and TableB on Column1 will return**

**SELECT \* FROM TableA AS a INNER JOIN TableB AS b USING (Column1);**

**SELECT \* FROM TableA AS a INNER JOIN TableB AS b ON a.Column1 = b.Column1;**

**+------------+-----------+---------------------+**

**| a.Column1 | a.Column2 | b.Column1| b.Column3|**

**+------------------------+---------------------+**

**| 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 |**

**+------------+-----------+----------+----------+**

**The NATURAL JOIN of TableA and TableB on Column1 will return:**

**SELECT \* FROM TableA NATURAL JOIN TableB**

**+------------+----------+----------+**

**|Column1 | Column2 | Column3 |**

**+-----------------------+----------+**

**| 1 | 2 | 3 |**

**+------------+----------+----------+**

**The repeated column is avoided.**

**(AFAICT from the standard grammar, you can't specify the joining columns in a natural join; the join is strictly name-based. See also**[**Wikipedia**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Join_%28SQL%29#Natural_join)**.)**

**(*There's a cheat in the inner join output; the a. and b. parts would not be in the column names; you'd just have column1, column2, column1, column3 as the headings.*)**