# **SQL NOT NULL Constraint**

**SQL NOT NULL Constraint:**

1. By default, a column can hold NULL values.
2. The NOT NULL constraint enforces a column to NOT accept NULL values.
3. This enforces a field to always contain a value, which means that you cannot insert a new record, or update a record without adding a value to this field.

**SQL NOT NULL on CREATE TABLE**

1. The following SQL ensures that the "ID", "LastName", and "FirstName" columns will NOT accept NULL values when the "Persons" table is created:Example:

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| CREATE TABLE Persons (  ID int NOT NULL,  LastName varchar(255) NOT NULL,  FirstName varchar(255) NOT NULL,  Age int  ); |

**SQL NOT NULL on ALTER TABLE**

1. To create a NOT NULL constraint on the "Age" column when the "Persons" table is already created, use the following SQL:  
   SQL Server / MS Access:

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| ALTER TABLE Persons  ALTER COLUMN Age int NOT NULL; |

My SQL / Oracle (prior version 10G):

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| ALTER TABLE Persons  MODIFY COLUMN Age int NOT NULL; |

Oracle 10G and later:

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| ALTER TABLE Persons  MODIFY Age int NOT NULL; |