

Part 9 – Unique key constraint

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In this session we will learn

- What is unique key constraint
- When do you use unique key constraint over primary key constraint
- Difference between unique key constraint and primary key constraint

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Unique key constraint

We use UNIQUE constraint to enforce uniqueness of a column i.e the column shouldn't allow any duplicate values. We can add a Unique constraint thru the designer or using a query.

To create the unique key using a query:

Alter Table Table_Name

Add Constraint Constraint_Name Unique(Column_Name)

Both primary key and unique key are used to enforce the uniqueness of a column. So, when do you choose one over the other?

A table can have only one primary key. If you want to enforce uniqueness on 2 or more columns, then we use unique key constraint.

What is the difference between Primary key constraint and Unique key constraint?

1. A table can have only one primary key, but more than one unique key
2. Primary key does not allow nulls, whereas unique key allows one null

Additional Resources

- PRAGIM Home Page:

- <http://www.PragimTech.com>

- Resources:

- ASP.NET Interview Questions
- <http://www.VenkatASPInterview.Blogspot.com>
- C# Interview Questions
- <http://www.VenkatCSharpInterview.Blogspot.com>

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