**Question:**

In Snowflake, can you create permanent, transient, and temporary tables with the same name in the same schema and database?

**Answer:**

You can create permanent and temporary tables with the same name in Snowflake, but not permanent and transient tables with the same name in the same schema.

DROP TABLE MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table;

-- Create permanent table

CREATE OR REPLACE TABLE MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (

id INT,

name STRING

);

-- Insert 3 records

INSERT INTO MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (id, name) VALUES

(1, 'Alice'),

(2, 'Bob'),

(3, 'Charlie');

**-- Create Transient table**

CREATE TRANSIENT TABLE MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (

id INT,

name STRING

);--**Object 'MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE' already exists.**

**-- Create temporary table**

CREATE TEMPORARY TABLE MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (

id INT,

name STRING

);--Table SAMPLE\_TABLE successfully created.

SELECT COUNT(\*) FROM MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE;--Zero records

-- Insert 3 records

INSERT INTO MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE (id, name) VALUES

(4, 'David'),

(5, 'Eva'),

(6, 'Frank');

SELECT COUNT(\*) FROM MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE;--3 records

SELECT \* FROM MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE;

ID NAME

4 David

5 Eva

6 Frank

**Why This Happens**

Even though you used the full name MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table, Snowflake’s session resolution rules prioritize temporary tables over permanent ones if they share the same name.

✅ Temporary tables "shadow" permanent tables in the same session.

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**How to Access the Permanent Table Again**

To access the permanent table:

End your current session (log out or close the worksheet)

Start a new session (temporary table will be gone)

Run:

SELECT \* FROM MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE;

ID NAME

1 Alice

2 Bob

3 Charlie

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**Next scenario**

**Question:**

In Snowflake, can you create transient, and temporary tables with the same name in the same schema and database?

**Answer:**

You can create transient and temporary tables with the same name in Snowflake

DROP TABLE MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table;

-- **Create Transient table**

CREATE TRANSIENT TABLE MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (

id INT,

name STRING

);

INSERT INTO MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (id, name) VALUES

(1, 'Alice'),

(2, 'Bob'),

(3, 'Charlie');

**-- Create temporary table**

CREATE TEMPORARY TABLE MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (

id INT,

name STRING

);

-- Insert 3 records

INSERT INTO MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE (id, name) VALUES

(4, 'David'),

(5, 'Eva'),

(6, 'Frank');

SELECT COUNT(\*) FROM MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE;--3 records

SELECT \* FROM MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE;

ID NAME

4 David

5 Eva

6 Frank

**Why This Happens**

Even though you used the full name MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table, Snowflake’s session resolution rules prioritize temporary tables over transient ones if they share the same name.

✅ Temporary tables "shadow" transient tables in the same session.

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**How to Access the Transient Table Again**

To access the Transient table:

End your current session (log out or close the worksheet)

Start a new session (temporary table will be gone)

Run:

SELECT \* FROM MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE;

ID NAME

4 David

5 Eva

6 Frank

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**Next scenario**

-- Drop any existing table

DROP TABLE MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table;

**-- Create permanent table**

CREATE OR REPLACE TABLE MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (

id INT,

name STRING

);

CREATE **TRANSIENT TABLE** MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (

id INT,

name STRING

);--**Object 'MYSNOW.PUBLIC.SAMPLE\_TABLE' already exists.**

CREATE **TEMPORARY TABLE** MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (

id INT,

name STRING

);--Table SAMPLE\_TABLE successfully created.

CREATE **ICEBERG TABLE** MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table (

id INT,

name STRING

)

CATALOG = 'my\_catalog'

EXTERNAL\_VOLUME = 'my\_volume';--Object 'SAMPLE\_TABLE' already exists as TABLE

CREATE OR REPLACE **DYNAMIC TABLE** MYSNOW.PUBLIC.sample\_table

TARGET\_LAG = '1 minute'

AS

SELECT id, name FROM source\_table;--Object 'SAMPLE\_TABLE' already exists as TABLE

**In Snowflake:**

Permanent, transient, dynamic, and Iceberg tables are all schema-level objects.

That means they cannot share the same name (sample\_table) within the same schema (MYSNOW.PUBLIC) at the same time.

Temporary tables, however, are session-scoped and do not live in the schema—so they can share the same name.