

SQL Introduction

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SQL DROP DATABASE Statement

SQL Delete and Truncate Rows

In this tutorial, we'll learn to delete rows from a table in SQL with the help of examples.

In SQL, we use the `DELETE` statement to delete row(s) from a database table. For example,

```
DELETE FROM Customers
WHERE customer_id = 5;
```

Here, the SQL command will delete a row from the `Customers` table where `customer_id` is **5**.



Delete all Rows in a Table

The `WHERE` clause determines which rows to delete. However, we can delete all rows at once if we omit the `WHERE` clause. For example,

```
DELETE FROM Customers;
```

Here, the SQL command deletes all rows from a table.

Note: Be careful when you use `DELETE`. Records may lose permanently if the database is not backed up.

Truncate Table in SQL

The `TRUNCATE TABLE` clause is another way to delete all rows from a table at once. For example,

```
TRUNCATE TABLE Customers;
```

Here, the SQL command does exactly the same thing the above command does.

Note: The `TRUNCATE` clause doesn't support the `WHERE` clause.

Delete Vs Truncate

The main difference between both statements is that `DELETE FROM` statement supports `WHERE` clause whereas `TRUNCATE` does not.

That means, we can delete single or multiple rows using the `DELETE FROM` statement while the `TRUNCATE` statement deletes all records from the table at once.

We can mimic the `TRUNCATE` statement with `DELETE FROM` statement by omitting the `WHERE` clause. For example,

```
DELETE FROM Customers;
```

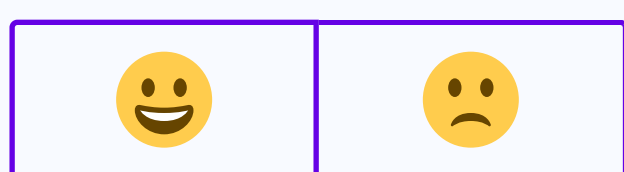
is similar to,

```
TRUNCATE TABLE Customers;
```

Previous Tutorial:
[SQL Select Into Insert](#)

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[SQL Constraints](#)

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