

SQL Additional Topics

SQL ALTER TABLE Statement

In this tutorial, we'll learn to change table structure with the help of examples.

We can change the structure of a table using the ALTER TABLE command. We can

- Add a column

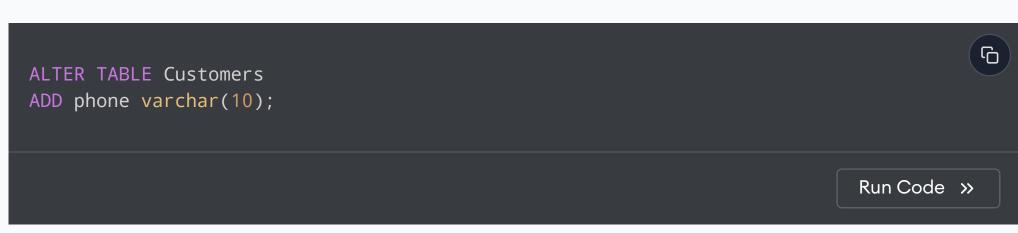
• Rename a column

Examples - Q Search tutorials and examples

- Modify a column
- Delete a column
- Rename a table

Add Column in a Table

We can add columns in a table using the ALTER TABLE command with the ADD clause. For example,



Here, the SQL command adds a column named phone in the Customers table.

Add Multiple Columns in a Table

We can also add multiple columns at once in a table. For example,

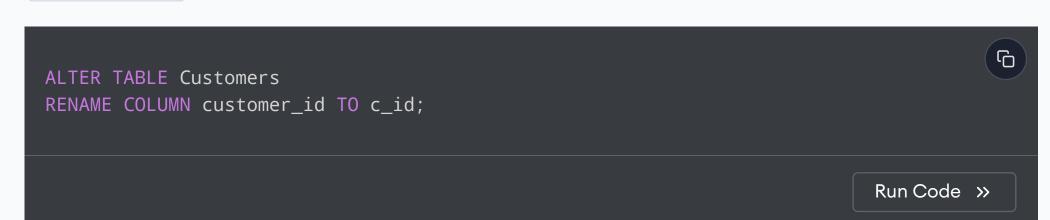
```
ALTER TABLE Customers
ADD phone varchar(10), age int;
```

Here, the SQL command adds the phone and age column in the Customers table.

Related Topics SQL NOT NULL Constraint SQL DEFAULT Constraint SQL UNIQUE Constraint SQL DROP TABLE Statement SQL FOREIGN KEY SQL SELECT INTO Statement

Rename Column in a Table

We can rename columns in a table using the ALTER TABLE command with the RENAME COLUMN clause. For example,



Here, the SQL command changes the column name of <code>customer_id</code> to <code>c_id</code> in the <code>Customers</code> table.

Modify Column in a Table

We can also change the column's data type using the ALTER TABLE command with MODIFY or ALTER COLUMN clause. For example,

SQL Server

```
ALTER TABLE Customers
ALTER COLUMN age VARCHAR(2);
```

MySQL

```
ALTER TABLE Customers
MODIFY COLUMN age VARCHAR(2);
```

Oracle

```
ALTER TABLE Customers
MODIFY age VARCHAR(2);
```

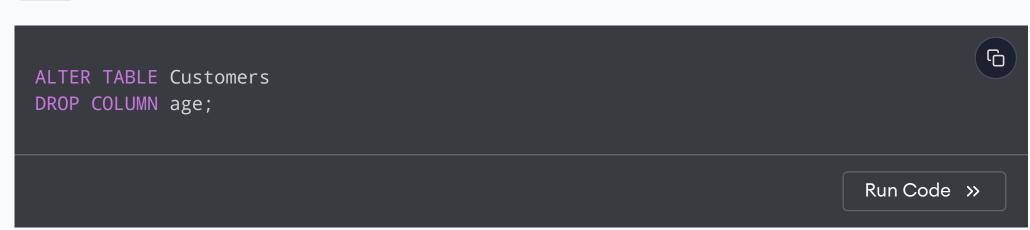
PostgreSQL

```
ALTER TABLE Customers
ALTER COLUMN age TYPE VARCHAR(2);
```

Here, the SQL command changes the data type of the age column to VARCHAR in the Customers table.

Drop Column in a Table

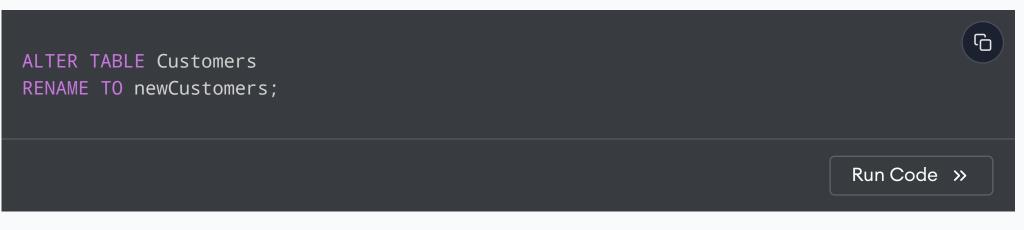
We can also drop (remove) columns in a table using the ALTER TABLE command with the DROP clause. For example,



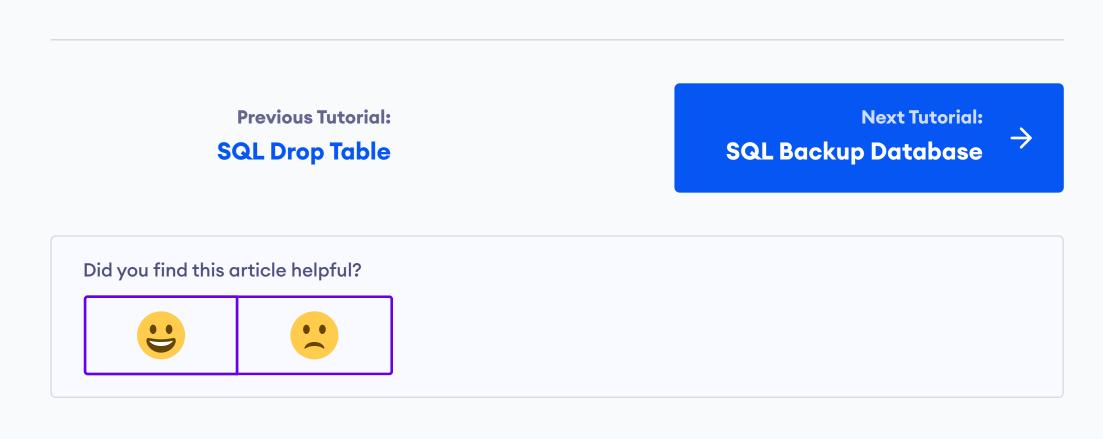
Here, the SQL command removes the phone column from the Customers table.

Rename a Table

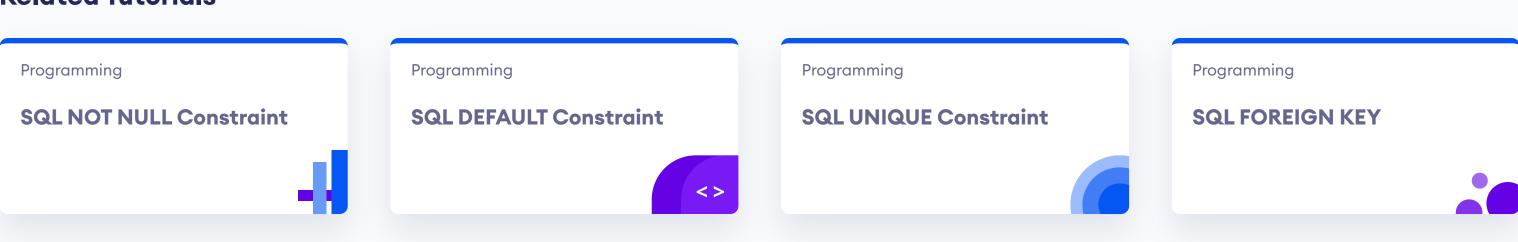
We can change the name of a table using the ALTER TABLE command with the RENAME clause. For example,



Here, the SQL command renames the Customers table to newCustomers.



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