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SQL CREATE TABLE Statement

In this tutorial, we'll learn about creating tables in SQL with examples.

A database table is used to store records (data). To create a database table, we use the SQL `CREATE TABLE` statement. For example,

```
CREATE TABLE Companies (  
  id int,  
  name varchar(50),  
  address text,  
  email varchar(50),  
  phone varchar(10)  
);
```

Run Code >>

Here, the SQL command creates a database named `companies`. The table contains column (field) `id`, `name`, `address`, `email` and `phone`.

The `int`, `varchar(50)` and `text` are data types that tell what data could be stored in that field. Some commonly used data types are as follows.

Data Type	Description	Example
<code>int</code>	can store numbers	<code>400</code> , <code>-300</code>
<code>varchar(x)</code>	can store variable characters with maximum length of x	<code>John Doe</code> , <code>United States of America</code>
<code>text</code>	can store texts up to 65535 characters	This is a really long paragraph that can go over lines.

Note: We must provide data types for each column while creating a table. Learn more about [SQL Data Types](#).

CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS

While creating a table that already exists, throws an error. To fix this issue, we can add the optional `IF NOT EXISTS` command while creating a table. For example,

```
CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS Companies (  
  id int,  
  name varchar(50),  
  address text,  
  email varchar(50),  
  phone varchar(10)  
);
```

Run Code >>

Here, the SQL command will only create a table if there is not one with a similar name.

CREATE TABLE AS

We can also create a table using records from any other existing table using the `CREATE TABLE AS` command. For example,

```
CREATE TABLE USACustomers  
AS (  
  SELECT *  
  FROM Customers  
  WHERE country = 'USA'  
);
```

Here, the SQL command creates a table named `USACustomers` and copies the records of the nested query into the new table.

Related Topics: CREATE TABLE

- How to create a table with a Primary Key? >
- How to define constraints while creating a table? >


Recommended Readings


- [SQL Views](#)
- [SQL CREATE DATABASE](#)

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