View

What is view in MYSQL?

In simple words, a **view** in a database is like a virtual table. A view is just a query that pretends to be a table. It doesn't store data itself but displays data stored in other tables. You can think of it as a saved query that you can use like a regular table.

Here's a basic example to illustrate:

- Imagine you have a table called employees with lots of information about your company's employees.

- You only want to see the names and salaries of the employees without all the other details.

You can create a view called employee_salaries that shows only the names and salaries. When you query the employee_salaries view, it fetches and displays just the names and salaries from the employees table, even though the view itself doesn't store that data.

Views are useful because they can simplify complex queries, improve security by limiting access to specific data, and help present data in a more understandable way.

Advantages of Views:

1. **Abstraction:** Maybe you need to get data from many different tables to create a specific report. Instead of writing a complex query every time, you can create a view that combines all the needed data. Then, you can simply query this view as if the data is already neatly combined in one place.

2. **Security:** You don't want to give any more access to people than they need. By creating a view and only giving access to the view instead of the underlying tables, the user will only be able to query what you have specifically selected for in the view.

3. **Efficiency:** If you know that your users are going to have to query a specific domain of data that will require several different tables all joined together in a specific way, it's more efficient (from a development perspective) and consistent to just have a single view they can all use.