

# External Tables

---

**Sujith Nair**

Cloud Data Architect

Snowflake Snowpro Certified

# #What is an External Table in snowflake ? Why would you use it in your project ?

External tables in snowflake as the name suggests are tables where the table data is stored outside or externally to snowflake database in an external stage and can be queried from snowflake with the help of SQL.

- External tables are read only, no DML operation is allowed
- You can create views and use them in joins
- Generally slower than a snowflake table to return data.
- Can be partitioned to improve query performance.

## Why use External Tables ?

- Can be used to ingest data from cloud storage by select as insert for large files.
- Avoid the effort of writing code to ingest data with the Copy command.
- Can create streams on external tables to ingest data in near real time
- Same file can be consumed by multiple applications



# Thank you!

---