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SQL DELETE Statement

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The SQL DELETE Statement

The DELETE statement is used to delete existing records in a table.

DELETE Syntax

```
DELETE FROM table_name WHERE condition;
```

Note: Be careful when deleting records in a table! Notice the WHERE clause in the DELETE statement. The WHERE clause specifies which record(s) should be deleted. If you omit the WHERE clause, all records in the table will be deleted!

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Demo Database

Below is a selection from the "Customers" table in

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the Northwind sample database:

CustomerID	CustomerName	ContactName
1	Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders
2	Ana Trujillo Emparedados y helados	Ana Trujillo
3	Antonio Moreno Taquería	Antonio Moreno
4	Around the Horn	Thomas Hardy
5	Berglunds snabbköp	Christina Berglund

SQL DELETE Example

The following SQL statement deletes the customer "Alfreds Futterkiste" from the "Customers" table:

Example

```
DELETE FROM Customers WHERE
CustomerName='Alfreds Futterkiste';
```

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The "Customers" table will now look like this:

CustomerID	CustomerName	ContactName
2	Ana Trujillo Emparedados y helados	Ana Trujillo

3	Antonio Moreno Taquería	Antonio Moreno
4	Around the Horn	Thomas Hardy
5	Berglunds snabbköp	Christina Berglund

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Delete All Records

It is possible to delete all rows in a table without deleting the table. This means that the table structure, attributes, and indexes will be intact:

```
DELETE FROM table_name;
```

The following SQL statement deletes all rows in the "Customers" table, without deleting the table:

Example

```
DELETE FROM Customers;
```

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Test Yourself With
Exercises

Exercise:

Delete all the records from the `Customers` table where the `Country` value is 'Norway'.

```
Customers
Country = 'Norway';
```

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