

MySQL Cheat Sheet

MySQL is a popular open-source relational database management system known for its ease of use and scalability. Sometimes, you will need a little help while working on a project. That's why we created this MySQL Cheat Sheet.

Instructions for installing MySQL are available at: <https://dev.mysql.com>

CONNECTING TO A MYSQL SERVER

Connect to a MySQL server with a username and a password using the mysql command-line client. MySQL will prompt for the **password**:
`mysql -u [username] -p`

To connect to a **specific database** on a MySQL server using a username and a password:
`mysql -u [username] -p [database]`

To **export data** using the mysqldump tool:
`mysqldump -u [username] -p \ [database] > data_backup.sql`

To exit the client:
`quit` or `exit`

For a full list of commands:
`help`

CREATING AND DISPLAYING DATABASES

To create a database:
`CREATE DATABASE zoo;`

To list all the databases on the server:
`SHOW DATABASES;`

To use a specified database:
`USE zoo;`

To delete a specified database:
`DROP DATABASE zoo;`

To list all tables in the database:
`SHOW TABLES;`

To get information about a specified table:
`DESCRIBE animal;`
It outputs column names, data types, default values, and more about the table.

CREATING TABLES

To create a table:
`CREATE TABLE habitat (id INT, name VARCHAR(64));`

Use AUTO_INCREMENT to increment the ID automatically with each new record. An AUTO_INCREMENT column must be defined as a primary or unique key:
`CREATE TABLE habitat (id INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO_INCREMENT, name VARCHAR(64));`

To create a table with a foreign key:
`CREATE TABLE animal (id INT PRIMARY KEY AUTO_INCREMENT, name VARCHAR(64), species VARCHAR(64), age INT, habitat_id INT, FOREIGN KEY (habitat_id) REFERENCES habitat(id));`

MODIFYING TABLES

Use the ALTER TABLE statement to modify the table structure.

To change a table name:
`ALTER TABLE animal RENAME pet;`

To add a column to the table:
`ALTER TABLE animal ADD COLUMN name VARCHAR(64);`

To change a column name:
`ALTER TABLE animal RENAME COLUMN id TO identifier;`

To change a column data type:
`ALTER TABLE animal MODIFY COLUMN name VARCHAR(128);`

To delete a column:
`ALTER TABLE animal DROP COLUMN name;`

To delete a table:
`DROP TABLE animal;`

QUERYING DATA

To select data from a table, use the SELECT command. An example of a single-table query:
`SELECT species, AVG(age) AS average_age FROM animal WHERE id != 3 GROUP BY species HAVING AVG(age) > 3 ORDER BY AVG(age) DESC;`

An example of a multiple-table query:
`SELECT city.name, country.name FROM city [INNER | LEFT | RIGHT] JOIN country ON city.country_id = country.id;`

Use +, -, *, / to do some basic math. To get the number of seconds in a week:
`SELECT 60 * 60 * 24 * 7; -- result: 604800`

AGGREGATION AND GROUPING

- **AVG**(expr) – average value of expr for the group.
- **COUNT**(expr) – count of expr values within the group.
- **MAX**(expr) – maximum value of expr values within the group.
- **MIN**(expr) – minimum value of expr values within the group.
- **SUM**(expr) – sum of expr values within the group.

To count the rows in the table:
`SELECT COUNT(*) FROM animal;`

To count the non-NULL values in a column:
`SELECT COUNT(name) FROM animal;`

To count unique values in a column:
`SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT name) FROM animal;`

GROUP BY

To count the animals by species:
`SELECT species, COUNT(id) FROM animal GROUP BY species;`

To get the average, minimum, and maximum ages by habitat:
`SELECT habitat_id, AVG(age), MIN(age), MAX(age) FROM animal GROUP BY habitat_id;`

INSERTING DATA

To insert data into a table, use the INSERT command:
`INSERT INTO habitat VALUES (1, 'River'), (2, 'Forest');`

You may specify the columns in which the data is added. The remaining columns are filled with default values or NULLs.
`INSERT INTO habitat (name) VALUES ('Savanna');`

UPDATING DATA

To update the data in a table, use the UPDATE command:
`UPDATE animal SET species = 'Duck', name = 'Quack' WHERE id = 2;`

DELETING DATA

To delete data from a table, use the DELETE command:
`DELETE FROM animal WHERE id = 1;`

This deletes all rows satisfying the WHERE condition. To delete all data from a table, use the TRUNCATE TABLE statement:
`TRUNCATE TABLE animal;`

CASTING

From time to time, you need to change the type of a value. Use the CAST() function to do this. In MySQL, you can cast to these data types: CHAR NCHAR BINARY DATE DATETIME DECIMAL DOUBLE FLOAT REAL SIGNED UNSIGNED TIME YEAR JSON spatial_type

To get a number as a signed integer:
`SELECT CAST(1234.567 AS signed); -- result: 1235`

To change a column type to double:
`SELECT CAST(column AS double);`

TEXT FUNCTIONS

FILTERING THE OUTPUT

To fetch the city names that are not Berlin:
`SELECT name FROM city WHERE name != 'Berlin';`

TEXT OPERATORS

To fetch the city names that start with a 'P' or end with an 's':
`SELECT name FROM city WHERE name LIKE 'P%' OR name LIKE '%s';`

To fetch the city names that start with any letter followed by 'ublin' (like Dublin in Ireland or Lublin in Poland):
`SELECT name FROM city WHERE name LIKE '_ublin';`

CONCATENATION

Use the CONCAT() function to concatenate two strings:
`SELECT CONCAT('Hi ', 'there!');`
-- result: Hi there!

If any of the string is NULL, the result is NULL:
`SELECT CONCAT(Great ' ', 'day', NULL);`
-- result: NULL

MySQL allows specifying a separating character (separator) using the CONCAT_WS() function. The separator is placed between the concatenated values:
`SELECT CONCAT_WS(' ', 1, 'Olivier', 'Norris');`
-- result: 1 Olivier Norris

OTHER USEFUL TEXT FUNCTIONS

To get the count of characters in a string:
`SELECT LENGTH('LearnSQL.com');`
-- result: 12

To convert all letters to lowercase:
`SELECT LOWER('LEARNSQL.COM');`
-- result: learnsql.com

To convert all letters to uppercase:
`SELECT UPPER('LearnSQL.com');`
-- result: LEARNSQL.COM

To get just a part of a string:
`SELECT SUBSTRING('LearnSQL.com', 9);`
-- result: .com
`SELECT SUBSTRING('LearnSQL.com', 1, 5);`
-- result: Learn

To replace a part of a string:
`SELECT REPLACE('LearnSQL.com', 'SQL', 'Python');`
-- result: LearnPython.com

NUMERIC FUNCTIONS

To get the remainder of a division:
`SELECT MOD(13, 2); -- result: 1`

To round a number to its nearest integer:
`SELECT ROUND(1234.56789); -- result: 1235`

To round a number to three decimal places:
`SELECT ROUND(1234.56789, 3);`
-- result: 1234.568

To round a number up:
`SELECT CEIL(13.1); -- result: 14`
`SELECT CEIL(-13.9); -- result: -13`

The CEIL(x) function returns the smallest integer not less than x. To round the number down:
`SELECT FLOOR(13.8); -- result: 13`
`SELECT FLOOR(-13.2); -- result: -14`

The FLOOR(x) function returns the greatest integer not greater than x. To round towards 0 irrespective of the sign of a number:
`SELECT TRUNCATE(13.56, 0); -- result: 13`
`SELECT TRUNCATE(-13.56, 1); -- result: -13.5`

To get the absolute value of a number:
`SELECT ABS(-12); -- result: 12`

To get the square root of a number:
`SELECT SQRT(9); -- result: 3`

USEFUL NULL FUNCTIONS

To fetch the names of the cities whose rating values are not missing:
`SELECT name FROM city WHERE rating IS NOT NULL;`

COALESCE(x, y, ...)

To replace NULL in a query with something meaningful:
`SELECT domain, COALESCE(domain, 'domain missing') FROM contacts;`
The COALESCE() function takes any number of arguments and returns the value of the first argument that is not NULL.

NULLIF(x, y)

To save yourself from division by 0 errors:
`SELECT last_month, this_month, this_month * 100.0 / NULLIF(last_month, 0) AS better_by_percent FROM video_views;`
The NULLIF(x, y) function returns NULL if x equals y, else it returns the value of x value.

DATE AND TIME

There are 5 main time-related types in MySQL: DATE TIME DATETIME TIMESTAMP YEAR

DATE – stores the year, month, and day in the YYYY-MM-DD format.

TIME – stores the hours, minutes, and seconds in the HH:MM:SS format.

DATETIME – stores the date and time in the YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS format. The supported range is '1000-01-01 00:00:00' to '9999-12-31 23:59:59'.

TIMESTAMP – stores the date and time. The range is '1970-01-01 00:00:01' UTC to '2038-01-19 03:14:07' UTC. MySQL converts TIMESTAMP values from the current time zone to UTC for storage, and back from UTC to the current time zone for retrieval.

YEAR – stores the year in the YYYY format.

INTERVALS

An interval is the duration between two points in time. To define an interval: **INTERVAL 1 DAY**
This syntax consists of the INTERVAL keyword, a value, and a time part keyword (YEAR, QUARTER, MONTH, WEEK, DAY, HOUR, MINUTE, SECOND, MICROSECOND).

You may combine different INTERVALS using the + or - operator:

INTERVAL 1 YEAR + INTERVAL 3 MONTH
You may also use the standard SQL syntax:
INTERVAL '1-3' YEAR_MONTH
-- 1 year and 3 months
INTERVAL '3-12' HOUR_MINUTE
-- 3 hours 12 minutes

WHAT TIME IS IT?

To answer this question, use:

- CURRENT_TIME or CURTIME – to get the current time.
- CURRENT_DATE or CURDATE – to get the current date.
- NOW() or CURRENT_TIMESTAMP – to get the current timestamp with both of the above.

CREATING VALUES

To create a date, time, or datetime, write the value as a string and cast it to the proper type.
`SELECT CAST('2021-12-31' AS date), CAST('15:31' AS time), CAST('2021-12-31 23:59:29' AS datetime);`

You may skip casting in simple conditions; the database knows what you mean.
`SELECT airline, flight_no, departure_time FROM airport_schedule WHERE departure_time < '12:00';`