



SQL Extra lecture

`CREATE TABLE <tablename>...`



Creating a new table

Since a database consists of one or more tables, how is a table created in the first place?

You have actually seen examples of that inside all files provided for the exercises. But we have never looked more closely at the so called CREATE TABLE statement.

We will not examine this at the exam, but for the curious student, here's an extra lecture with the basics about creating tables.

Simplest form of a create table statement

```
CREATE TABLE [IF NOT EXISTS] <table_name>  
    (<column_name> <type> [modifier] [,<column_name> <type> [modifier]]*);
```

For instance:

```
CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS cars (car_id INTEGER,  
    make TEXT,  
    license_num TEXT PRIMARY KEY);
```

Used once - but make it accessible

The create table statement(s) is of course run only once, when you set up the database initially. But why not save that statement in a file, so that you later on easily can re-create the table (or tables)?

When you make a dump of a table (or database) the SQL statements created for you always start with the create table statement for each table.

Without it, the dump wouldn't work, since it would only contain insert statements but without any guarantee that the table to insert into exists...

Read more about the create statement

The full story can be read here:

https://www.sqlite.org/lang_createtable.html

Bonus:

If you'd like to try it in MySQL/MariaDB:

<https://mariadb.com/kb/en/mariadb/create-table/>

PostgreSQL:

<https://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.6/static/sql-createtable.html>