

ALTER

The ALTER TABLE statement is used to change the definition or structure of an existing table

Syntax

ALTER TABLE "table_name" [Specify Actions];

Following actions can be performed

- Columns – Add, Delete (Drop), Modify or Rename
- Constraints – Add, Drop
- Index – Add, Drop

COLUMN – ADD & DROP

The basic syntax of an ALTER TABLE command to add/drop a Column in an existing table is as follows.

Syntax

```
ALTER TABLE "table_name"  
ADD "column_name" "Data Type";
```

```
ALTER TABLE "table_name"  
DROP COLUMN "column_name";
```

COLUMN – MODIFY & RENAME

The basic syntax of an ALTER TABLE command to add/drop a Column in an existing table is as follows.

Syntax

```
ALTER TABLE "table_name"
```

```
MODIFY ("column_name" "Data Type");
```

```
ALTER TABLE "table_name"
```

```
RENAME COLUMN "column_name" TO "column_renamed";
```

CONSTRAINT – ADD & DROP

The basic syntax of an ALTER TABLE command to add/drop a Constraint on a existing table is as follows.

Syntax

1. ALTER TABLE "table_name" MODIFY ("column_name" NOT NULL);
2. ALTER TABLE "table_name" MODIFY ("column_name" NULL);
3. ALTER TABLE "table_name" ADD CONSTRAINT "column_name" CHECK ("column_name">=100);
4. ALTER TABLE "table_name" ADD PRIMARY KEY ("column_name");
5. ALTER TABLE "child_table" ADD CONSTRAINT "child_column" FOREIGN KEY ("parent column") REFERENCES "parent table";