

# POSTGRESQL - DISTINCT KEYWORD

[http://www.tutorialspoint.com/postgresql/postgresql\\_distinct\\_keyword.htm](http://www.tutorialspoint.com/postgresql/postgresql_distinct_keyword.htm)

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The PostgreSQL **DISTINCT** keyword is used in conjunction with SELECT statement to eliminate all the duplicate records and fetching only unique records.

There may be a situation when you have multiple duplicate records in a table. While fetching such records, it makes more sense to fetch only unique records instead of fetching duplicate records.

## Syntax:

The basic syntax of DISTINCT keyword to eliminate duplicate records is as follows:

```
SELECT DISTINCT column1, column2, ....columnN
FROM table_name
WHERE [condition]
```

## Example:

Consider the table [COMPANY](#) having records as follows:

```
# select * from COMPANY;
id | name  | age | address  | salary
---+---+---+---+---
1  | Paul  | 32  | California | 20000
2  | Allen | 25  | Texas    | 15000
3  | Teddy | 23  | Norway   | 20000
4  | Mark  | 25  | Rich-Mond | 65000
5  | David | 27  | Texas    | 85000
6  | Kim   | 22  | South-Hall | 45000
7  | James | 24  | Houston  | 10000
(7 rows)
```

Let us add two more records to this table as follows:

```
INSERT INTO COMPANY (ID, NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY)
VALUES (8, 'Paul', 32, 'California', 20000.00 );

INSERT INTO COMPANY (ID, NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY)
VALUES (9, 'Allen', 25, 'Texas', 15000.00 );
```

Now, the records in the COMPANY table would be:

```
id | name  | age | address  | salary
---+---+---+---+---
1  | Paul  | 32  | California | 20000
2  | Allen | 25  | Texas    | 15000
3  | Teddy | 23  | Norway   | 20000
4  | Mark  | 25  | Rich-Mond | 65000
5  | David | 27  | Texas    | 85000
6  | Kim   | 22  | South-Hall | 45000
7  | James | 24  | Houston  | 10000
8  | Paul  | 32  | California | 20000
9  | Allen | 25  | Texas    | 15000
(9 rows)
```

First, let us see how the following SELECT query returns duplicate salary records:

```
testdb=# SELECT name FROM COMPANY;
```

This would produce the following result:

```
name
-----
Paul
Allen
Teddy
Mark
David
Kim
James
Paul
Allen
(9 rows)
```

Now, let us use **DISTINCT** keyword with the above SELECT query and see the result:

```
testdb=# SELECT DISTINCT name FROM COMPANY;
```

This would produce the following result where we do not have any duplicate entry:

```
name
-----
Teddy
Paul
Mark
David
Allen
Kim
James
(7 rows)
```