

# SQL - UNIQUE CONSTRAINT

<http://www.tutorialspoint.com/sql/sql-unique.htm>

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The UNIQUE Constraint prevents two records from having identical values in a particular column. In the CUSTOMERS table, for example, you might want to prevent two or more people from having identical age.

## Example:

For example, the following SQL creates a new table called CUSTOMERS and adds five columns. Here, AGE column is set to UNIQUE, so that you can not have two records with same age:

```
CREATE TABLE CUSTOMERS(  
    ID      INT             NOT NULL,  
    NAME    VARCHAR (20)    NOT NULL,  
    AGE     INT             NOT NULL UNIQUE,  
    ADDRESS CHAR (25) ,  
    SALARY  DECIMAL (18, 2),  
    PRIMARY KEY (ID)  
);
```

If CUSTOMERS table has already been created, then to add a UNIQUE constraint to AGE column, you would write a statement similar to the following:

```
ALTER TABLE CUSTOMERS  
    MODIFY AGE INT NOT NULL UNIQUE;
```

You can also use following syntax, which supports naming the constraint in multiple columns as well:

```
ALTER TABLE CUSTOMERS  
    ADD CONSTRAINT myUniqueConstraint UNIQUE(AGE, SALARY);
```

## DROP a UNIQUE Constraint:

To drop a UNIQUE constraint, use the following SQL:

```
ALTER TABLE CUSTOMERS  
    DROP CONSTRAINT myUniqueConstraint;
```

If you are using MySQL, then you can use the following syntax:

```
ALTER TABLE CUSTOMERS  
    DROP INDEX myUniqueConstraint;
```