



'Returning into' allows the Developer to retain record information about a DML command after it has been executed, that is the command can be used to return a value from the affected row.

The syntax is as follows ...

```
insert into <table_name> values  
(<column_name> ...)  
returning <column_name> into <local_variable>;
```

This returned value can now be used for other purposes ...

## Advanced Cursors - Using Returning Into in PLSQL

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*declare*

*l\_row rowid;*

*l\_col varchar2(100);*

*begin*

*insert into temp*

*values (12831,1,1,sysdate,1)*

***returning** rowid **into** l\_row;*

*...*

*update temp*

*set col2 = 23*

*where rowid = l\_row*

*returning col1 into l\_col;*

*end;*



The returned value can be any of the columns in the table or the rowid. Rownum, Level or Prior cannot be used.

In addition if the DML affects more than one record, for example an update, the returning clause could return the following error ...

*ORA-01422: exact fetch returns more than requested number of rows*

Attempts to return more than one value into varrays or tables without bulk collecting (examined later) will result in the following errors ...

*PLS-00642: local collection types not allowed in SQL statements*

*PLS-00597: expression 'L\_COL' in the INTO list is of wrong type*