



Although Explicit cursors cannot themselves be used for updating records, they can be used to lock records that will need updating, or at least lock the record while processing is taking place.

This is different from the default locking Oracle normal uses which is to lock records as they are updated, this method locks them before an update or delete takes place.

The syntax is as follows ...

```
cursor <cursor_name> is  
    select <column_name>  
    from <table_name>  
    for update;
```



The previous command will lock the record selected in the cursor until the process has moved onto another during a loop for example.

To the update or delete statement can use this where clause to access the locked record ...

where current of <cursor_name>

Note that the '*where current of*' clause cannot be used in a process unless a cursor has issued a '*for update*' in the explicit cursor, however, the '*for update*' can be used without a '*where current*' being specified.