

Database Objects - Creation Syntax for Tables



If a Developer isn't sure a table doesn't already exist then the following option will prevent the existing table being overwritten ...

```
create table if not exists cheques_created  
(cheque_number int(20) not null  
,date_issued date not null  
,payee text(50));
```

Comments can be added thus (note its placed under the columns) ...

```
create table temp99  
(col1 int not null)  
comment = 'A table to collect data';
```

Database Objects - Column Creation



There are a number of options which can be used when specifying a column.

***null / not null** - Whether the column is mandatory or not.*

***default** - The value to be inserted into the column when a null value is given*

***auto_increment** - A column to be automatically populated with the next number in a sequence*

***comment** - A text value describing or commenting on the column*

***unsigned** - Used with Numeric datatypes to increase the amount of positive values available*

The Developer can also specify whether the column is a Primary, Unique or Foreign key, this is examined later in the section.