Creating a database



The SQL query to create a brand new database uses the SQL keywords **CREATE DATABASE** followed by your choice of name for that database, like this:

CREATE DATABASE database-name ;

So the SQL queries in the screenshots below create a new database called "library" – then confirm its existence:

MySQL Command Line Client	_	×
mysql> CREATE DATABASE library ; Query OK, 1 row affected (0.20 sec)		~
mysql> SHOW DATABASES ;		
Database		
information_schema library mysql performance_schema sys		
++ 5 rows in set (0.00 sec)		
mysql> _		

	mike@linux-pc: ~	-	0	8
File Edit View Search	Terminal Help			
mysql> CREATE DATABAS Query OK, 1 row affec mysql> SHOW DATABASES	ted (0,20 sec)			
+				
Database +	+			
information_schema				
library mysql				
performance_schema				
sys				
+ 5 rows in set (0,01 s	•			
mysql>				



Database names may contain letters, digits, and the underscore character – but they should not contain spaces or any other characters. ...cont'd

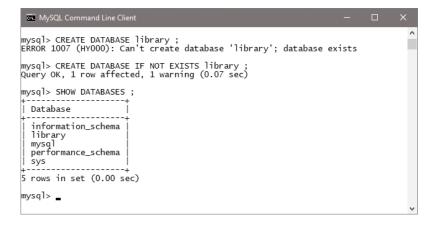
If an SQL query attempts to create a new database with the name of an existing database, an error is reported. This can be avoided by qualifying the SQL query with the keywords **IF NOT EXISTS** so that it first checks to see if a database of that name already exists:

CREATE DATABASE IF NOT EXISTS database-name ;

In the screenshot below, the first SQL query attempts to create a new database called "library", which was already created in the previous example – so an error message is generated.

The second query is qualified to check that no database of that name already exists – so no error is generated.

In each case, no new database is created and the existing "library" database is unaffected by these queries:



In MySQL, database names are case-sensitive on operating systems that have case-sensitive file names, such as Linux. So MySQL on Linux regards databases "LIBRARY" and "library" as two different databases. Windows, however, makes no casesensitive distinction, so would regard "LIBRARY" and "library" as the same database.



Use only lowercase characters for all database names to avoid any confusion of casesensitivity.