

Deleting a database



The SQL query to delete an existing database uses the SQL keywords **DROP DATABASE** followed by its name, like this:

```
DROP DATABASE database-name ;
```

The first SQL query in the screenshot below confirms the existence of a database called “library”, which was created in the previous example. The subsequent queries delete the “library” database then confirm it no longer exists. Notice how multiple queries can be typed at the prompt then executed together:

```
MySQL Command Line Client

mysql> SHOW DATABASES ;
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| library        |
| mysql          |
| performance_schema |
| sys            |
+-----+
5 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> DROP DATABASE library ; SHOW DATABASES ;
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.21 sec)

+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| mysql          |
| performance_schema |
| sys            |
+-----+
4 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql>
```

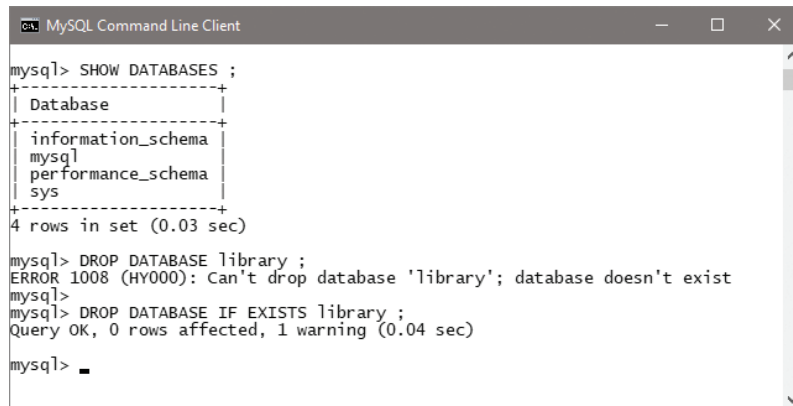
If an SQL query attempts to delete a database that does not already exist, an error is reported. This can be avoided by qualifying the SQL query with the keywords **IF EXISTS** so that it first checks to see if a database of that name already exists:

```
DROP DATABASE IF EXISTS database-name ;
```

...cont'd

In the screenshot below, the SQL query first attempts to delete a database called “library”, which was already deleted in the previous example – so an error message is generated.

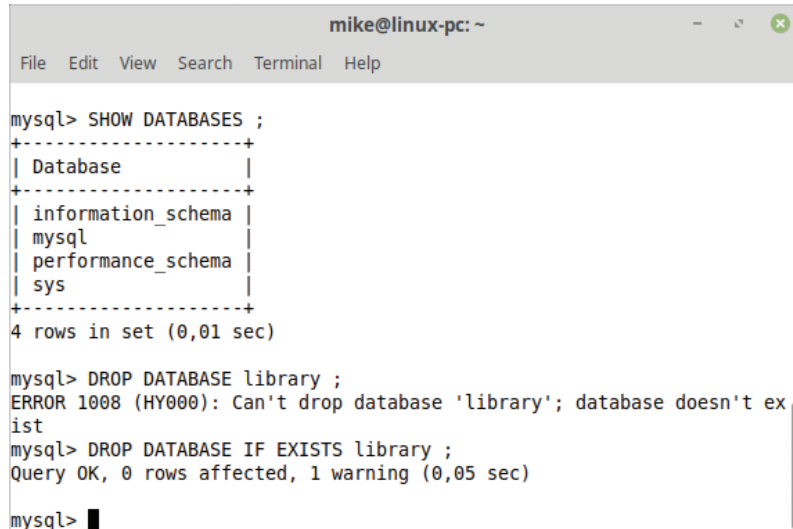
The subsequent query is qualified to check that a database of that name already exists – so no error is generated:



```
mysql> SHOW DATABASES ;
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| mysql |
| performance_schema |
| sys |
+-----+
4 rows in set (0.03 sec)

mysql> DROP DATABASE library ;
ERROR 1008 (HY000): Can't drop database 'library'; database doesn't exist
mysql>
mysql> DROP DATABASE IF EXISTS library ;
Query OK, 0 rows affected, 1 warning (0.04 sec)

mysql> _
```



```
mike@linux-pc: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help

mysql> SHOW DATABASES ;
+-----+
| Database |
+-----+
| information_schema |
| mysql |
| performance_schema |
| sys |
+-----+
4 rows in set (0,01 sec)

mysql> DROP DATABASE library ;
ERROR 1008 (HY000): Can't drop database 'library'; database doesn't exist
mysql> DROP DATABASE IF EXISTS library ;
Query OK, 0 rows affected, 1 warning (0,05 sec)

mysql> █
```