

# HIVE - DROP TABLE

[http://www.tutorialspoint.com/hive/hive\\_drop\\_table.htm](http://www.tutorialspoint.com/hive/hive_drop_table.htm)

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This chapter describes how to drop a table in Hive. When you drop a table from Hive Metastore, it removes the table/column data and their metadata. It can be a normal table *storedinMetastore* or an external table *storedinlocalfilesystem*; Hive treats both in the same manner, irrespective of their types.

## Drop Table Statement

The syntax is as follows:

```
DROP TABLE [IF EXISTS] table_name;
```

The following query drops a table named **employee**:

```
hive> DROP TABLE IF EXISTS employee;
```

On successful execution of the query, you get to see the following response:

```
OK
Time taken: 5.3 seconds
hive>
```

## JDBC Program

The following JDBC program drops the employee table.

```
import java.sql.SQLException;
import java.sql.Connection;
import java.sql.ResultSet;
import java.sql.Statement;
import java.sql.DriverManager;

public class HiveDropTable {

    private static String driverName = "org.apache.hadoop.hive.jdbc.HiveDriver";

    public static void main(String[] args) throws SQLException {

        // Register driver and create driver instance
        Class.forName(driverName);

        // get connection
        Connection con = DriverManager.getConnection("jdbc:hive://localhost:10000/userdb",
        "", "");

        // create statement
        Statement stmt = con.createStatement();

        // execute statement
        stmt.executeQuery("DROP TABLE IF EXISTS employee;");
        System.out.println("Drop table successful.");

        con.close();
    }
}
```

Save the program in a file named `HiveDropTable.java`. Use the following commands to compile and execute this program.

```
$ javac HiveDropTable.java
$ java HiveDropTable
```

## Output:

```
Drop table successful
```

The following query is used to verify the list of tables:

```
hive> SHOW TABLES;  
emp  
ok  
Time taken: 2.1 seconds  
hive>
```

```
Loading [MathJax]/jax/output/HTML-CSS/fonts/TeX/fontdata.js
```