

Created by Ahsan Arif

## BEFORE DELETE Trigger

---

A BEFORE DELETE Trigger means that Oracle will fire this trigger before the DELETE operation is executed.

The syntax for an BEFORE DELETE Trigger is:

```
CREATE or REPLACE TRIGGER trigger_name
BEFORE DELETE
  ON table_name
  [ FOR EACH ROW ]
DECLARE
  -- variable declarations
BEGIN
  -- trigger code
EXCEPTION
  WHEN ...
  -- exception handling
END;
```

*trigger\_name* is the name of the trigger to create.

### Restrictions:

- You can not create a BEFORE trigger on a view.
- You can update the :NEW values.
- You can not update the :OLD values.

### For example:

If you had a table created as follows:

```
CREATE TABLE orders
( order_id          number(5),
  quantity          number(4),
  cost_per_item     number(6,2),
  total_cost        number(8,2)
);
```

We could then create a BEFORE DELETE trigger as follows:

```
CREATE OR REPLACE TRIGGER orders_before_delete
BEFORE DELETE
  ON orders
  FOR EACH ROW

DECLARE
  v_username varchar2(10);

BEGIN

  -- Find username of person performing the DELETE on the table
  SELECT user INTO v_username
  FROM dual;

  -- Insert record into audit table
  INSERT INTO orders_audit
  ( order_id,
    quantity,
    cost_per_item,
    total_cost,
    delete_date,
    deleted_by )
  VALUES
  ( :old.order_id,
    :old.quantity,
    :old.cost_per_item,
    :old.total_cost,
    sysdate,
    v_username );

END;
```