

RE: Oracle cursor help

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Perl/perl.dbi.users/2005-06/msg00171.html>

- *From:* Ron.Reidy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (Ron Reidy)
 - *Date:* Thu, 23 Jun 2005 10:49:58 -0600
-

Row-at-a-time processing is horrifically slow. If there is a large amount (gigs) of data, he should use bulk processing in PL/SQL, possibly using the LIMIT clause.

Something like this (your mileage may vary):

```
declare
rids dbms_utility.uncl_array;
begin
select rowidtochar(rowid)
from table
where <your where clause>
bulk collect into rids;

for all idx in rids.first .. rids.last
delete from table where rowid = chartorowid(rids(idx));
end;
/

commit;
```

No need to lock the rows.

If there are more rows to delete than to keep, he should consider making a copy of the data (using CTAS) into a temporary table and then:

1. drop all indexes
2. truncate the table
3. drop the table
4. rename temp table to original_table_name

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-----Original Message-----
From: Job Miller [<mailto:jobmiller@xxxxxxxxxx>]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 10:41 AM

RE: Oracle cursor help

To: jseger3@xxxxxxxxxxxxx; dbi-users@xxxxxxxxx
Subject: Re: Oracle cursor help

Size your rollback so you can do this in one transaction.

DECLARE

```
CURSOR T1 IS
SELECT e, f
FROM T1
WHERE e < f
FOR UPDATE;
BEGIN
OPEN T1Cursor;
LOOP
```

```
/* Retrieve each row of the result of the
above query
```

```
into PL/SQL variables: */
```

```
12) FETCH T1Cursor INTO a, b;
```

```
/* If there are no more rows to fetch,
exit the loop: */
```

```
13) EXIT WHEN T1Cursor%NOTFOUND;
```

```
/* Delete the current tuple: */
```

```
14) DELETE FROM T1 WHERE CURRENT OF T1Cursor;
```

```
/* Insert the reverse tuple: */
```

```
15) INSERT INTO T1 VALUES(b, a);
```

```
16) END LOOP;
```

```
/* Free cursor used by the query. */
```

```
17) CLOSE T1Cursor;
```

```
18) END;
```

--- jeff <jseger3@xxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

```
> ditto....and I'd add that if your delete is taking
> forever to run that
> you may want to consider getting some indexes on the
```

RE: Oracle cursor help

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- > columns you are
- > using to filter for your delete. If a "select *
- > from myTable where
- > <insert your predicate here>" takes a long time,
- > then so will a delete
- > with the same predicate and no PL/SQL trick is going
- > to speed it up. You
- > may be able to throw in a hint, depending on how the
- > table is
- > structured/indexed, and it's also possible that
- > running stats on the