

# MySQL default value Gotcha!! No functions allowed!!

MySQL default value Gotcha!! No functions allowed!! (<https://www.luismajano.com/blog/MySQL-default-value-Gotcha-No-functions-allowed>)

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Posted by Luis Majano

20 Mar 2007 12:00 AM

I just came upon this issue today and it was bothering the creepers out of me. I could not put a function as a default value on a column on a MySQL table, a function call like : NOW() or UUID()

Noooo!!! MySQL Do not like it one bit. So I had to revert to the docs and there it was:

The DEFAULT clause specifies a default value for a column. With one exception, the default value must be a constant; it cannot be a function or an expression. This means, for example, that you cannot set the default for a date column to be the value of a function such as NOW() or CURRENT\_DATE. The exception is that you can specify CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP as the default for a TIMESTAMP column.

**Link:** <http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.0/en/create-table.html> (  
<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.0/en/create-table.html>)

So please take note on this issue if you just spend 20 minutes like me, trying to figure it out.

Hope this helps.

Tags: MySQL (<https://www.luismajano.com/blog/category/MySQL>)

2 Comments (  
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**Josh Highland** (<http://www.notpopular.com/blogs/josh>)

I came across the problem a while back. Its one of the only things I don't really like about MySQL.

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**Luis Majano** (<http://www.luismajano.com>)

I agree,

Having default fields pointing to internal function is in my mind, something necessary. I hope MySQL future versions change this behavior.

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