

Verify your Moodle Database Schema

There is a very handy CLI tool `admin/cli/check_database_schema.php` which compares the structure of your Moodle database against the `XMLDB` metadata in the code and looks for any issues.

These might includes issues such as:

- Missing tables – they exist in XMLDB but not in your DB (not good!)
- Unexpected tables – tables in your database not defined in XMLDB (e.g. created outside of Moodle)
- Mismatches between table column definitions in the database and XMLDB

Some things may be acceptable to ignore, but it pays to do a check, particularly after an upgrade to make sure the upgrade process worked correctly and that you aren't missing any core or plugin database tables that are defined in XMLDB, as these will pop up as database errors in your application sooner or later (e.g. `Error reading from database`).

If you need to build any missing core tables, remember they are defined under:

Developer > XMLDB Editor

From here find `lib/db` (core database tables) and choose `Load`, followed by `Edit`. Find the table you need and choose `Edit`. You can then use View SQL code to get the relevant SQL commands to create the table if it is missing from your database.

As a developer, make sure you are correctly utilising XMLDB for defining your plugin's database schema/tables. Taking shortcuts by directly creating tables in the database without defining them in XMLDB will just cause problems for other developers and future upgrades.

Revision #1

Created Wed, Aug 7, 2019 12:33 PM by [Moodle Wiki](#)

Updated Wed, Aug 7, 2019 12:42 PM by [Moodle Wiki](#)