



## Chapter 2 - Retrieving Information from Database Tables

Oracle Database 11g SQL

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### Comparing Values

The following table lists the operators you can use to compare values:

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Operator	Description
=	Equal
<> or !=	Not equal
<	Less than
>	Greater than
<=	Less than or equal to
>=	Greater than or equal to
ANY	Compares one value with any value in a list
SOME	Identical to the ANY operator; you should use ANY rather than SOME because ANY is more widely used and readable.
ALL	Compares one value with all values in a list

The following query uses the not equal (<>) operator in the WHERE clause to retrieve the rows from the customers table whose customer\_id is not equal to 2:

```
SELECT *
FROM customers
WHERE customer_id <> 2;
```

CUSTOMER_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	DOB	PHONE
1	John	Brown	01-JAN-65	800-555-1211
3	Steve	White	16-MAR-71	800-555-1213
4	Gail	Black		800-555-1214
5	Doreen	Blue	20-MAY-70	

The next query uses the > operator to retrieve the product\_id and name columns from the products table where the product\_id column is greater than 8:

```
SELECT product_id, name
FROM products
WHERE product_id > 8;
```

PRODUCT_ID	NAME
9	Classical Music
10	Pop 3
11	Creative Yell
12	My Front Line

The following query uses the `ROWNUM` pseudo column and the `<=` operator to retrieve the first 3 rows from the `products` table:

```
SELECT ROWNUM, product_id, name
FROM products
WHERE ROWNUM <= 3;
```

ROWNUM	PRODUCT_ID	NAME
1	1	Modern Science
2	2	Chemistry
3	3	Supernova

You use the `ALL` operator in a `WHERE` clause to compare a value with *all* of the values in a list. You must place an `=`, `<>`, `<`, `>`, `<=`, or `>=` operator before `ALL`. The following query uses `ALL` to retrieve rows from the `customers` table where the value in the `customer_id` column is greater than all of the values 2, 3, and 4:

```
SELECT *
FROM customers
WHERE customer_id > ANY (2, 3, 4);
```

CUSTOMER_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	DOB	PHONE
3	Steve	White	16-MAR-71	800-555-1213
4	Gail	Black		800-555-1214
5	Doreen	Blue	20-MAY-70	

You use the `ANY` operator in a `WHERE` clause to compare a value with *any* of the values in a list. You must place an `=`, `<>`, `<`, `>`, `<=`, or `>=` operator before `ANY`. The following query uses `ANY` to retrieve rows from the `customers` table where the value in the `customer_id` column is greater than any of the values 2, 3, or 4:

```
SELECT *
FROM customers
WHERE customer_id > ALL (2, 3, 4);
```

CUSTOMER_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	DOB	PHONE
5	Doreen	Blue	20-MAY-70	

Only customer #5 is returned because 5 is greater than 2, 3, and 4.

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