

How to Get Started

Download Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Express

The first thing you need to get started is a **FREE** copy of Microsoft® SQL Server® 2012 Express. Navigate to <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/sql-server/sql-server-downloads> click the “Download Now” button under “Express”.

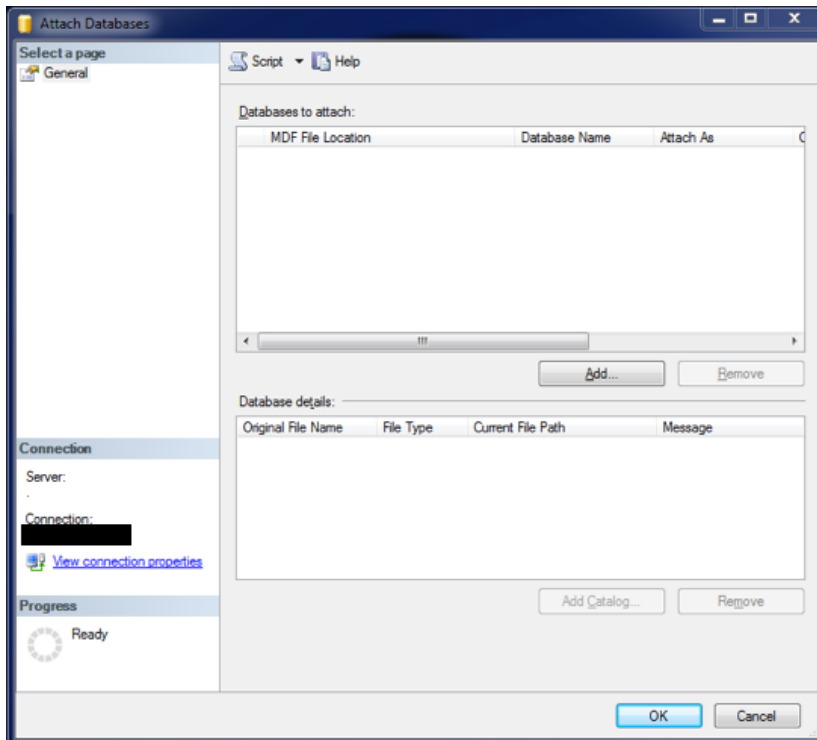
Once downloaded, run the executable and follow the on-screen instructions to install Microsoft® SQL Server® 2019 Express (depending on when you are taking this course, your version of SQL might be slightly different – this is not an issue).

After completing that installation, navigate to <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/ssms/download-sql-server-management-studio-ssms?view=sql-server-ver15> and download one of the more recent version of SQL Server Management Studio.

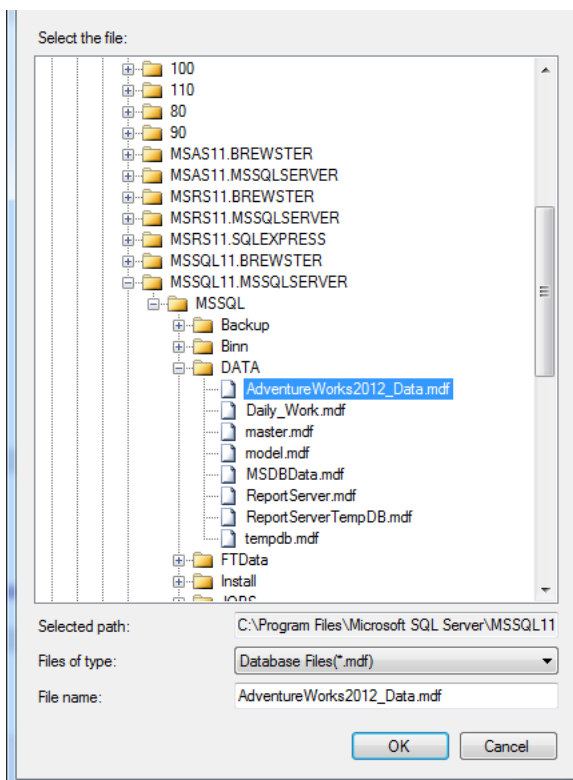
Download and Attach AdventureWorks

Once you have the Microsoft® SQL Server® 2012 Express successfully installed, you will need to download the sample AdventureWorks2012 database that the course lectures use. Navigate to https://www.dropbox.com/s/igulj4m7lv73eap/AdventureWorks2012_Data.zip?dl=0 (the Dropbox folder for this class’ resources) and download the file named “AdventureWorks2012_Data.zip”. Once downloaded, extract the files in the zipped folder. Move the file with the “.mdf” extension to the folder: C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL11.MSSQLSERVER\MSSQL\DATA.

Open SQL Management Studio (SSMS) once the file is finished downloading. Once SSMS is open, connect to your newly installed SQL Server Express instance. You can type “.sqlexpress” in the “Server Name” field when first opening SQL Server Management Studio. Once connected, right click on the folder named “Databases”, and then select “Attach...”. The “Attach Databases” screen will appear as shown below:



Click the “Add...” button to open the “Locate Database Files” screen where you will select the file named “AdventureWorks2012_Data.mdf”. This is the AdventureWorks SQL database file that we downloaded previously.



Press "OK" once you have selected the correct file. Information will populate into the "Attach Databases" screen based on what .mdf file you selected. Since we downloaded the database file but not any log file associated with it, click on the row with the word "Log" in the "File Type" column. As an extra step to make sure you selected the correct file, the log row will contain the text "Not Found" in the "Message" column. After confirming you have selected the correct row, click **Remove** and then press **OK**.

Right click on the "Databases" folder and select **Refresh**. Expand the "Databases" folder. The AdventureWorks2012 database should now appear in the expanded list, and you are ready to start the lessons!