



## SQL Server: FOR LOOP

Learn how to simulate the **FOR LOOP** in SQL Server (Transact-SQL) with syntax and examples.

**TIP:** Since the FOR LOOP does not exist in SQL Server, this page describes how to simulate a FOR LOOP using a WHILE LOOP.

### Description

In SQL Server, there is no FOR LOOP. However, you simulate the FOR LOOP using the WHILE LOOP.

### Syntax

The syntax to simulate the FOR Loop in SQL Server (Transact-SQL) is:

```
DECLARE @cnt INT = 0;

WHILE @cnt < cnt_total
BEGIN
    {...statements...}
    SET @cnt = @cnt + 1;
END;
```

### Parameters or Arguments

#### **cnt\_total**

The number of times that you want the simulated FOR LOOP (ie: WHILE LOOP) to execute.

#### **statements**

The statements of code to execute each pass through the loop.

### Note

- You can simulate the FOR LOOP in SQL Server (Transact-SQL) using the WHILE LOOP.

## Example

Let's look at an example that shows how to simulate the FOR LOOP in SQL Server (Transact-SQL) using the WHILE LOOP.

For example:

```
DECLARE @cnt INT = 0;

WHILE @cnt < 10
BEGIN
    PRINT 'Inside simulated FOR LOOP on TechOnTheNet.com';
    SET @cnt = @cnt + 1;
END;

PRINT 'Done simulated FOR LOOP on TechOnTheNet.com';
GO
```

In this WHILE LOOP example, the loop would terminate once @cnt reaches 10.

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