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Beginning SQL Server 2005 Express for Developers

From Novice to Professional

Everything you need to be productive with SQL Server 2005 Express

Robin Dewson

Apress®

Beginning SQL Server 2005 Express for Developers

From Novice to Professional



Robin Dewson

Beginning SQL Server 2005 Express for Developers: From Novice to Professional

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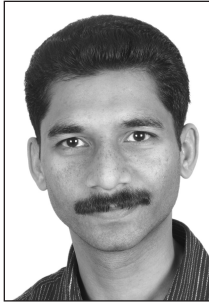
About the Author



ROBIN DEWSON has been hooked on programming ever since he bought his first computer in 1980, a Sinclair ZX80. His first major application of his own was a Visual FoxPro program that could be used to run a Fantasy League system. It was at this point he met up with a great help in his PC development life, Jon Silver at Step One Technologies, where in return for training he helped Jon with some other Visual FoxPro applications. From there, realizing that the marketplace for Visual FoxPro was limited, he decided to learn Visual Basic and SQL Server.

Starting out with SQL Server 6.5, Robin soon moved to SQL Server 7 and Visual Basic 5, and became involved in developing several applications for clients both in the UK and in the United States. From there, he moved to SQL Server 2000 and now SQL Server 2005, and Visual Basic 6 and now VS .NET, specializing in C# and VB .NET. Robin is also the coauthor of *Pro SQL Server 2005 Assemblies* along with other Apress books, and also contributes to ASP Today (www.asptoday.com). Robin can be contacted at robin@fat-belly.com or at www.fat-belly.com.

About the Technical Reviewer



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Vidya lives with his beloved wife and lovely daughter Vamika (nicknamed Pearly). He believes that nothing will turn into a reality without them. He is the follower of the concept “No Pain, No Gain” and believes that his wife is his greatest strength. He is a bibliophile, and when he is not working on technical stuff, he likes to play with his one-year-old daughter and also likes reading spiritual and occult science books. He blogs at <http://dotnetpassion.blogspot.com>.

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Introduction

B*eginning SQL Server 2005 Express for Developers* is for those people who see themselves as becoming either developers, database administrators, or a mixture of both but have yet to tread that path with SQL Server 2005. This edition of my book *Beginning SQL Server 2005 for Developers* is for readers who wish to learn and develop on the free version of SQL Server 2005, SQL Server 2005 Express.

Whether you have no knowledge of databases, or have knowledge of desktop databases such as MS Access, or even come from a server-based background such as Oracle, this book will provide you with the insight to get up and running with SQL Server 2005 Express.

Right from the start, your basic knowledge will be expanded, and you will soon be moving from a perceived beginner through to a competent and professional developer. It is the aim of this book to cater to a wide range of developers, from those who prefer to use the graphical interface for as much work as possible to those who want to become more adept at using SQL Server 2005 Express's programming language, T-SQL. Where practical, each method of using SQL Server 2005 Express is demonstrated, explained, and expanded so that you can evaluate what works best in your situation.

There are plenty of examples within the book of every action along with details about the security of your data. You will also learn the best way to complete a task and even learn how to make the correct decision when there are two or more choices that could be made.

Once you reach the end of this book, you will be able to design and create solid and reliable database solutions competently and proficiently.

Who This Book Is For

This book is ideal for anyone starting out with SQL Server who prefers to use the free but very powerful Express Edition of SQL Server 2005.

How This Book Is Structured

Beginning SQL Server 2005 Express starts with downloading and installing the product. It then moves on to an overview of the product and the GUI tool, SQL Server Management Studio Express, that can be used to develop database solutions. From there it covers all the fundamental concepts and techniques you need to develop databases and complete database solutions.

Prerequisites

None. Everything you need to become proficient with SQL Server 2005 Express is fully covered in this book.

Downloading the Code

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