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UNLIMITED®

Lab 4: Planning the Work

Lessons learned

2.5 p1

“This looks bad.”

When you get a SQL Server
that someone else has set up
and maintained over time,
it's easy to second-guess everything.




2.5 p2

**“Who would do
something like this?”**

**“They must have been incompetent.
I’ll fix everything at once.”**




2.5 p3



Then it backfires.

For example, adding more cores to queries that are already getting blocked.



2.5 p4

Change = risk.

Every time you make a change,
there's a risk it will break something.

It doesn't matter how well you know it.

It happens to me, too!

To minimize your risks,
minimize your changes.

Focus on the ones people will notice and love.



2.5 p5

Tuning is all about 3 numbers.

From Day 1

1. Total database size (and quantity)
2. Batch Requests/Second
3. Wait Time Ratio:
Wait Time per Core per Hour (or per sec)

Capture these metrics with `sp_BlitzFirst`.

**Your top wait stat is
where to focus your tuning.**



2.5 p6

More data = less risk.

If you only have a 60-second sample of wait stats,
it's harder to be confident.

Trending over days or weeks helps you tune better.

Since change = risk,
start by only changing things that
will stop the user screams.



2.5 p7