

# MSSQL – “Troubleshooting Sprocs”

Quick Trainer Series



[dataresearchlabs.com](https://dataresearchlabs.com)

# SSMS Troubleshooting System Stored Procedures

- **What are the Top 4 System Stored Procedures for Troubleshooting?**
- How to Use “sp\_server\_info” to Troubleshoot Version, Case, & Isolation
- How to Use “sp\_help” to Troubleshoot Object Details
- How to Use “sp\_monitor” to Troubleshoot Server Status
- How to Use “sp\_who2” to Troubleshoot Deadlocks

# What are the Top 4 System Stored Procedures?

## 1. “sp\_server\_info”

	attribute_id	attribute_name	attribute_value
1	1	DBMS_NAME	Microsoft SQL Server
2	2	DBMS_VER	Microsoft SQL Server 10.0.1780.2
3	10	OWNER_TERM	owner
4	11	TABLE_TERM	table
5	12	MAX_OWNER_NAME_LENGTH	128
6	13	TABLE_LENGTH	128
7	14	MAX_QUAL_LENGTH	128
8	15	COLUMN_LENGTH	128
9	16	IDENTIFIER_CASE	MIXED
10	17	TX_ISOLATION	2
11	18	COLLATION_SEQ	charset=iso_1 sort_order=nocase_iso charset_num...
12	19	SAVEPOINT_SUPPORT	Y
13	20	MULTI_RESULT_SETS	Y
14	22	ACCESSIBLE_TABLES	Y
15	100	USERID_LENGTH	128
16	101	QUALIFIER_TERM	database
17	102	NAMED_TRANSACTIONS	Y
18	103	SPROC_AS_LANGUAGE	Y
19	104	ACCESSIBLE_SPROC	Y
20	105	MAX_INDEX_COLS	Y
21	106	RENAME_TABLE	Y
22	107	RENAME_COLUMN	Y
23	108	DROP_COLUMN	Y
24	109	INCREASE_COLUMN_LENGTH	Y
25	110	DDL_IN_TRANSACTION	Y
26	111	DESCENDING_INDEXES	Y
27	112	SP_RENAME	Y
28	113	REMOTE_SPROC	N
29	500	SYS_SPROC_VERSION	10.0.1780.2

# What are the Top 4 System Stored Procedures?

1. “sp\_server\_info”
2. “sp\_help <tbl\_name>”

Name	Owner	Type	Created_datetime
1		user table	2021-01-23 11:08:38.283

Column_name	Type	Computed	Length	Prec	Scale	Nullable	TrimTrailingBlanks	FixedLenNullInSource	Collation
1	datetime	no	8			no	(n/a)	(n/a)	NULL
2	varchar	no	50			no	no	no	SQL_Latin1_General_CP1_CI_AS
3	varchar	no	100			no	no	no	SQL_Latin1_General_CP1_CI_AS
4	varchar	no	100			no	no	no	SQL_Latin1_General_CP1_CI_AS
5	varchar	no	100			no	no	no	SQL_Latin1_General_CP1_CI_AS
6	varchar	no	50			yes	no	yes	SQL_Latin1_General_CP1_CI_AS
7	varchar	no	50			no	no	no	SQL_Latin1_General_CP1_CI_AS
8	varchar	no	50			no	no	no	SQL_Latin1_General_CP1_CI_AS

Identity	Seed	Increment	Not For Replication
1	No identity column defined.	NULL	NULL

RowGuidCol	
1	No rowguidcol column defined.

Data_located_on_filegroup	
1	

index_name	index_description	index_keys
1	nonclustered located on	
2	IX_	
3	IX_	
4	IX_	
5	IX_	
6	IX_	
7	IX_	
8	IX_	

constraint_type	constraint_name	delete_action	update_action	status_enabled	status_for_replication	constraint_keys
1	DEFAULT on column Failed	DF_	(n/a)	(n/a)	(n/a)	

# What are the Top 4 System Stored Procedures?

1. “sp\_server\_info”
2. “sp\_help <tbl\_name>”
3. “sp\_monitor”

	last_run	current_run	seconds
1	2021-02-13 16:14:43.520	2021-02-13 17:11:52.423	3429

	cpu_busy	io_busy	idle
1	302729(220)-6%	20680(4)-0%	6239547(13062)-380%

	packets_received	packets_sent	packet_errors
1	456140437(143713)	987334967(180580)	8(0)

	total_read	total_write	total_errors	connections
1	123069267(392)	22283755(1496)	0(0)	12730737(19068)



# What are the Top 4 System Stored Procedures?

1. “sp\_server\_info”
2. “sp\_help <tbl\_name>”
3. “sp\_monitor”
4. “sp\_who2”

	SPID	Status	Login	HostName	BlkBy	DBName	Command	CPUTime	DiskIO	LastBatch	ProgramName	SPID	REQUESTID
40	40	sleeping		-	-	master	TASK MANAGER	0	0	02/13 17:11:21		40	0
41	41	sleeping		-	-	master	TASK MANAGER	0	0	02/13 17:11:21		41	0
42	42	sleeping		-	-	master	TASK MANAGER	0	0	02/13 17:11:21		42	0
43	43	sleeping		-	-	master	TASK MANAGER	0	0	02/13 17:12:21		43	0
44	44	sleeping		-	-	master	TASK MANAGER	0	0	02/13 17:12:21		44	0
45	45	sleeping		-	-	master	TASK MANAGER	0	0	02/13 17:12:21		45	0
46	46	sleeping		-	-	master	TASK MANAGER	0	0	02/13 17:12:21		46	0
47	51	sleeping		-	-	master	AWAITING COMMAND	2783	17	02/13 17:13:55		51	0
48	52	sleeping		-	-	master	AWAITING COMMAND	4654	9	02/13 17:12:25		52	0
49	53	sleeping		-	-	master	AWAITING COMMAND	125	1	02/13 17:09:17		53	0
50	54	sleeping		-	-		AWAITING COMMAND	0	0	02/13 17:13:59		54	0
51	55	sleeping		-	-	master	AWAITING COMMAND	485	284	02/13 16:17:10	Microsoft S...	55	0
52	56	sleeping		-	-		AWAITING COMMAND	0	0	02/13 17:12:33		56	0
53	57	sleeping		-	-	msdb	AWAITING COMMAND	63	298	02/12 11:49:34	SQLAgent - ...	57	0
54	58	sleeping		-	-	msdb	AWAITING COMMAND	0	0	01/25 02:44:28	SQLAgent - ...	58	0
55	59	sleeping		-	-		AWAITING COMMAND	141	0	02/13 17:14:12		59	0
56	60	sleeping		-	-	master	AWAITING COMMAND	14147	681	02/13 17:13:55	IgniteMonitor	60	0
57	61	sleeping		-	-		AWAITING COMMAND	0	0	02/13 17:12:21		61	0
58	62	sleeping		-	-		AWAITING COMMAND	16	0	02/13 17:14:14		62	0
59	63	sleeping		-	-		AWAITING COMMAND	0	0	02/13 17:14:12		63	0
60	64	sleeping		-	-		AWAITING COMMAND	0	0	02/13 17:14:13		64	0
61	65	sleeping		-	-		AWAITING COMMAND	0	0	02/02 18:34:29		65	0
62	66	sleeping		-	-	msdb	AWAITING COMMAND	13480	1822...	02/13 17:14:00	SQLAgent - ...	66	0
63	67	sleeping		-	-		AWAITING COMMAND	10434	3023	01/29 18:12:29		67	0

# SSMS Troubleshooting System Stored Procedures

- What are the Top 4 System Stored Procedures for Troubleshooting?
- **How to Use “sp\_server\_info” to Troubleshoot Version, Case, & Isolation**
- How to Use “sp\_help” to Troubleshoot Object Details
- How to Use “sp\_monitor” to Troubleshoot Server Status
- How to Use “sp\_who2” to Troubleshoot Deadlocks

# How to Use “sp\_server\_info” for Troubleshooting

## Definitions for “sp\_server\_info” ...

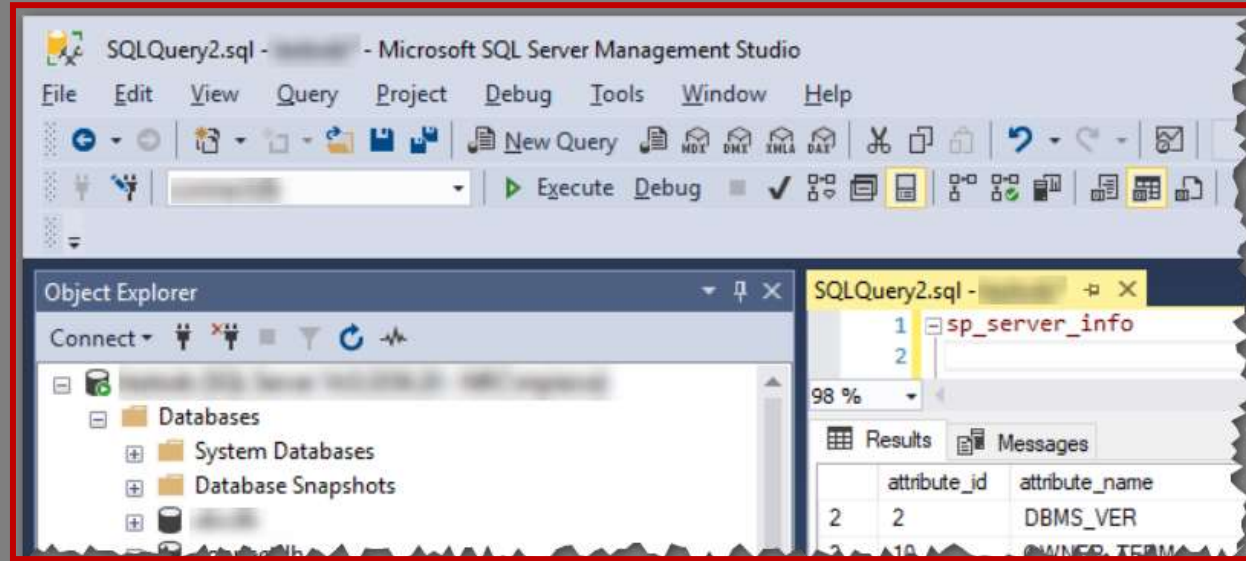
“Returns a list of attribute names and matching values for SQL Server...”  
– docs.Microsoft.com

“...is a **system stored procedure** which **returns** a list of **attribute names** and matching **values** for SQL Server.”  
– sqlknowledgebank.blogspot.com



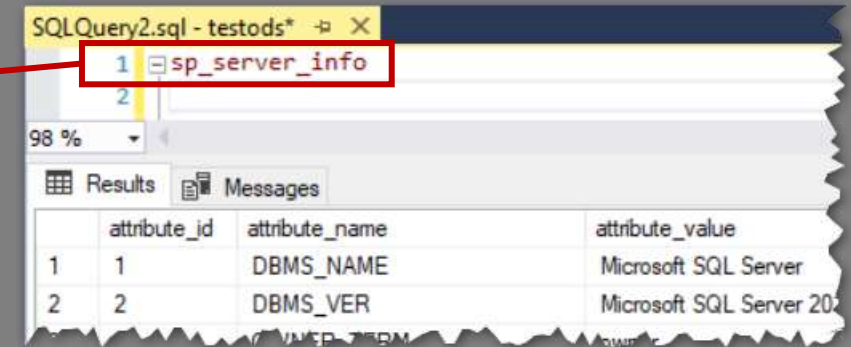
# How to Use “sp\_server\_info” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS...



# How to Use “sp\_server\_info” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_server\_info”



# How to Use “sp\_server\_info” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_server\_info”
- Analyze results for...
  - “DBMS\_VER”

MSSQL 2017 – 14.0.1234.X

**Ex:** You use a new SQL 2016 command like STRING\_AGG and it works fine in DEV but fails in STAGE due to server version...well check all environment server versions first to ensure compatible before using new TSQL command

attribute_id	attribute_name	attribute_value
2	DBMS_VER	Microsoft SQL Server 14.0.1234.X

# How to Use “sp\_server\_info” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_server\_info”
- Analyze results for...
  - “DBMS\_VER”
  - “IDENTIFIER\_CASE”
    - Values include:
      - MIXED or
      - SENSITIVE

Ex: SQL might run fine in DEV, but then odd behavior in STAGE or PROD b/c server's CASE is different...so WHERE clause on SELECT finds values ok when MIXED, but misses on downstream server having SENSITIVE



# How to Use “sp\_server\_info” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_server\_info”
- Analyze results for...
  - “DBMS\_VER”
  - “IDENTIFIER\_CASE”
  - **“TX\_ISOLATION”**

Should never be altered, default = 2

SQL-92 ANSI Standard:

1=Read Uncommitted (dirty reads, like nolock)

2=Read Committed (default, no dirty reads)

3=Repeatable Read (not write if read lock exists)

4=Serializable (transactions tightly enforced)

5=Snapshot Isolation (read values at start of tran)

Ex: Be sure all env's match, else get completely different locking behavior.



17	TX_ISOLATION	2
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# How to Use “sp\_server\_info” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_server\_info”
- Analyze results for...
  - “DBMS\_VER”
  - “IDENTIFIER\_CASE”
  - “TX\_ISOLATION”
  - Other properties exist...

attribute_id	attribute_name	attribute_value
10	OWNER_TERM	
11	TABLE_TERM	table
12	MAX_OWNER_NAME_LENGTH	128
13	TABLE_LENGTH	128
14	MAX_QUAL_LENGTH	128
15	COLUMN_LENGTH	128
16	IDENTIFIER_CASE	
17	TX_ISOLATION	2
18	COLLATION_SEQ	charset=iso_1 sort_
19	SAVEPOINT_SUPPORT	Y
20	MULTI_RESULT_SETS	Y
22	ACCESSIBLE_TABLES	Y
100	USERID_LENGTH	128
101	QUALIFIER_TERM	database
102	NAMED_TRANSACTIONS	Y
103	SPROC_AS_LANGUAGE	Y
104	ACCESSIBLE_SPROC	Y
105	MAX_INDEX_COLS	16
106	RENAME_TABLE	Y
107	RENAME_COLUMN	Y
108	DROP_COLUMN	Y
109	INCREASE_COLUMN_LENGTH	Y
110	DDL_IN_TRANSACTION	Y
111	DESCENDING_INDEXES	Y
112	SP_RENAME	Y
113	REMOTE_SPROC	Y
500	SYS_SPROC_VERSION	



# SSMS Troubleshooting System Stored Procedures

- What are the Top 4 System Stored Procedures for Troubleshooting?
- How to Use “sp\_server\_info” to Troubleshoot Version, Case, & Isolation
- **How to Use “sp\_help” to Troubleshoot Object Details**
- How to Use “sp\_monitor” to Troubleshoot Server Status
- How to Use “sp\_who2” to Troubleshoot Deadlocks

# How to Use “sp\_help” for Troubleshooting

## Definitions for “sp\_help” ...

“Reports information about a database object...or data type”

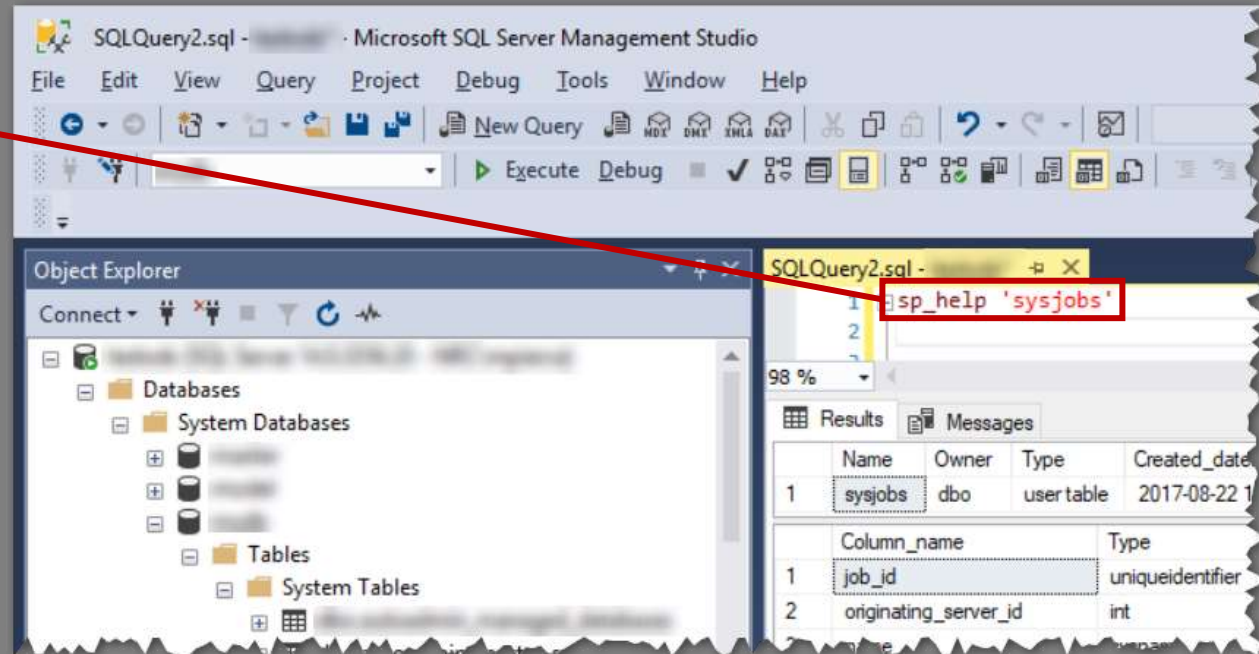
– docs.Microsoft.com

“Using sp\_help to **get help on a table, procedure, column**, etc. If you only remember one system stored procedure, this is probably the one to choose.”

– [www.wiseowl.co.uk/blog/s2522](http://www.wiseowl.co.uk/blog/s2522)

# How to Use “sp\_help” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS...
- Execute “sp\_help ‘sysjobs’ ”  
Is standard SQL system table



# How to Use “sp\_help” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_help ‘sysjobs’ ”
- Analyze Results...
  - Table Details

*Note that this demo is for a table, but that other objects will have different properties displayed.*

Name	Owner	Type	Created_datetime
1 sysjobs	dbo	user table	2017-08-10 10:10:10

Column_name	Type	Computed	Length	Prec	Scale	Null...	Collation
1 job_id	uniqueidentifier	no	16			no	NULL
2 originating_server_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
3 name	sysname	no	256			no	SQL_Latin1_Gener
4 enabled	tinyint	no	1	3	0	no	NULL
5 description	nvarchar	no	1024			yes	SQL_Latin1_Gener
6 start_step_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
7 category_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
8 owner_sid	varbinary	no	85			no	NULL

Identity	Seed	Increment	Not For Replication
1 No identity column defined.	NULL	NULL	NULL

RowGuidCol
1 No rowguidcol column defined.

Data_located_on_filegroup
1

index_name	index_description	index_keys
1 clust	clustered, unique located on	job_id
2 nc1	nonclustered located on	name
3 nc3	nonclustered located on	category_id
4 nc4	nonclustered located on	owner_sid

Table is referenced by foreign key	
1	msdb.dbo.syscollec...
2	msdb.dbo.syscollec...
3	msdb.dbo.sysjobac...
4	msdb.dbo.sysjobsc...

# How to Use “sp\_help” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_help ‘sysjobs’ ”
- Analyze Results...
  - Table Details
  - Column Details

Results		Messages						
	Name	Owner	Type	Created_datetime				
1	sysjobs	dbo	usertable	2017-08-10 10:10:10				
	Column_name	Type	Computed	Length	Prec	Scale	Null...	Collation
1	job_id	uniqueidentifier	no	16			no	NULL
2	originating_server_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
3	name	sysname	no	256			no	SQL_Latin1_General_CI_AS_KS_WS
4	enabled	tinyint	no	1	3	0	no	NULL
5	description	nvarchar	no	1024			yes	SQL_Latin1_General_CI_AS_KS_WS
6	start_step_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
7	category_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
8	owner_sid	varbinary	no	85			no	NULL
	Identity	Seed	Increment	Not For Replication				
1	No identity column defined.	NULL	NULL	NULL				
	RowGuidCol							
1	No rowguidcol column defined.							
	Data_located_on_filegroup							
1								
	index_name	index_description	index_keys					
1	clust	clustered, unique located on	job_id					
2	nc1	nonclustered located on	name					
3	nc3	nonclustered located on	category_id					
4	nc4	nonclustered located on	owner_sid					
	Table is referenced by foreign key							
1	msdb.dbo.syscollector							
2	msdb.dbo.syscollector							
3	msdb.dbo.sysjobactivity							
4	msdb.dbo.sysjobactivity							



# How to Use “sp\_help” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_help ‘sysjobs’ ”
- Analyze Results...
  - Table Details
  - Column Details
  - Identity Details (if exists)

Name	Owner	Type	Created_datetime
sysjobs	dbo	user table	2017-08-10 10:10:10

Column_name	Type	Computed	Length	Prec	Scale	Null...	Collation
job_id	uniqueidentifier	no	16			no	NULL
originating_server_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
name	sysname	no	256			no	SQL_Latin1_General_CI_AS_KS_WS
enabled	tinyint	no	1	3	0	no	NULL
description	nvarchar	no	1024			yes	SQL_Latin1_General_CI_AS_KS_WS
start_step_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
category_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
owner_sid	varbinary	no	85			no	NULL

Identity	Seed	Increment	Not For Replication
No identity column defined.	NULL	NULL	NULL

RowGuidCol
No rowguidcol column defined.

Data_located_on_filegroup

index_name	index_description	index_keys
clust	clustered, unique located on	job_id
nc1	nonclustered located on	name
nc3	nonclustered located on	category_id
nc4	nonclustered located on	owner_sid

Table is referenced by foreign key
msdb.dbo.syscollector_collection_set
msdb.dbo.syscollector_collection_set
msdb.dbo.sysjobactivity
msdb.dbo.sysjobhistory



# How to Use “sp\_help” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_help ‘sysjobs’ ”
- Analyze Results...
  - Table Details
  - Column Details
  - Identity Details (if exists)
  - Row GUID Details (if exists)

Results		Messages						
	Name	Owner	Type	Created_datetime				
1	sysjobs	dbo	user table	2017-08-				
	Column_name	Type	Computed	Length	Prec	Scale	Null...	Collation
1	job_id	uniqueidentifier	no	16			no	NULL
2	originating_server_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
3	name	sysname	no	256			no	SQL_Latin1_Gener
4	enabled	tinyint	no	1	3	0	no	NULL
5	description	nvarchar	no	1024			yes	SQL_Latin1_Gene
6	start_step_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
7	category_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
8	owner_sid	varbinary	no	85			no	NULL
	Identity	Seed	Increment	Not For Replication				
1	No identity column defined.	NULL	NULL	NULL				
	RowGuidCol							
1	No rowguidcol column defined.							
	Data_located_on_filegroup							
1								
	index_name	index_description	index_keys					
1	clust	clustered, unique located on	job_id					
2	nc1	nonclustered located on	name					
3	nc3	nonclustered located on	category_id					
4	nc4	nonclustered located on	owner_sid					
	Table is referenced by foreign key							
1	msdb.dbo.syscolle							
2	msdb.dbo.syscolle							
3	msdb.dbo.sysjobac							
4	msdb.dbo.sysjobsc							

# How to Use “sp\_help” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_help ‘sysjobs’ ”
- Analyze Results...
  - Table Details
  - Column Details
  - Identity Details (if exists)
  - Row GUID Details (if exists)
  - Filegroup Details

Results		Messages	
Name	Owner	Type	Created_datetime
sysjobs	dbo	user table	2017-08-10 10:10:10

Column_name	Type	Computed	Length	Prec	Scale	Null...	Collation
job_id	uniqueidentifier	no	16			no	NULL
originating_server_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
name	sysname	no	256			no	SQL_Latin1_General_CI_AS_KS_WS
enabled	tinyint	no	1	3	0	no	NULL
description	nvarchar	no	1024			yes	SQL_Latin1_General_CI_AS_KS_WS
start_step_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
category_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
owner_sid	varbinary	no	85			no	NULL

Identity	Seed	Increment	Not For Replication
No identity column defined.	NULL	NULL	NULL

RowGuidCol
No rowguidcol column defined.

Data_located_on_filegroup

index_name	index_description	index_keys
clust	clustered, unique located on [filegroup]	job_id
nc1	nonclustered located on [filegroup]	name
nc3	nonclustered located on [filegroup]	category_id
nc4	nonclustered located on [filegroup]	owner_sid

Table is referenced by foreign key	
1	msdb.dbo.syscollector_collection_set
2	msdb.dbo.syscollector_collection_set
3	msdb.dbo.sysjobactivity
4	msdb.dbo.sysjobhistory

# How to Use “sp\_help” for Troubleshooting

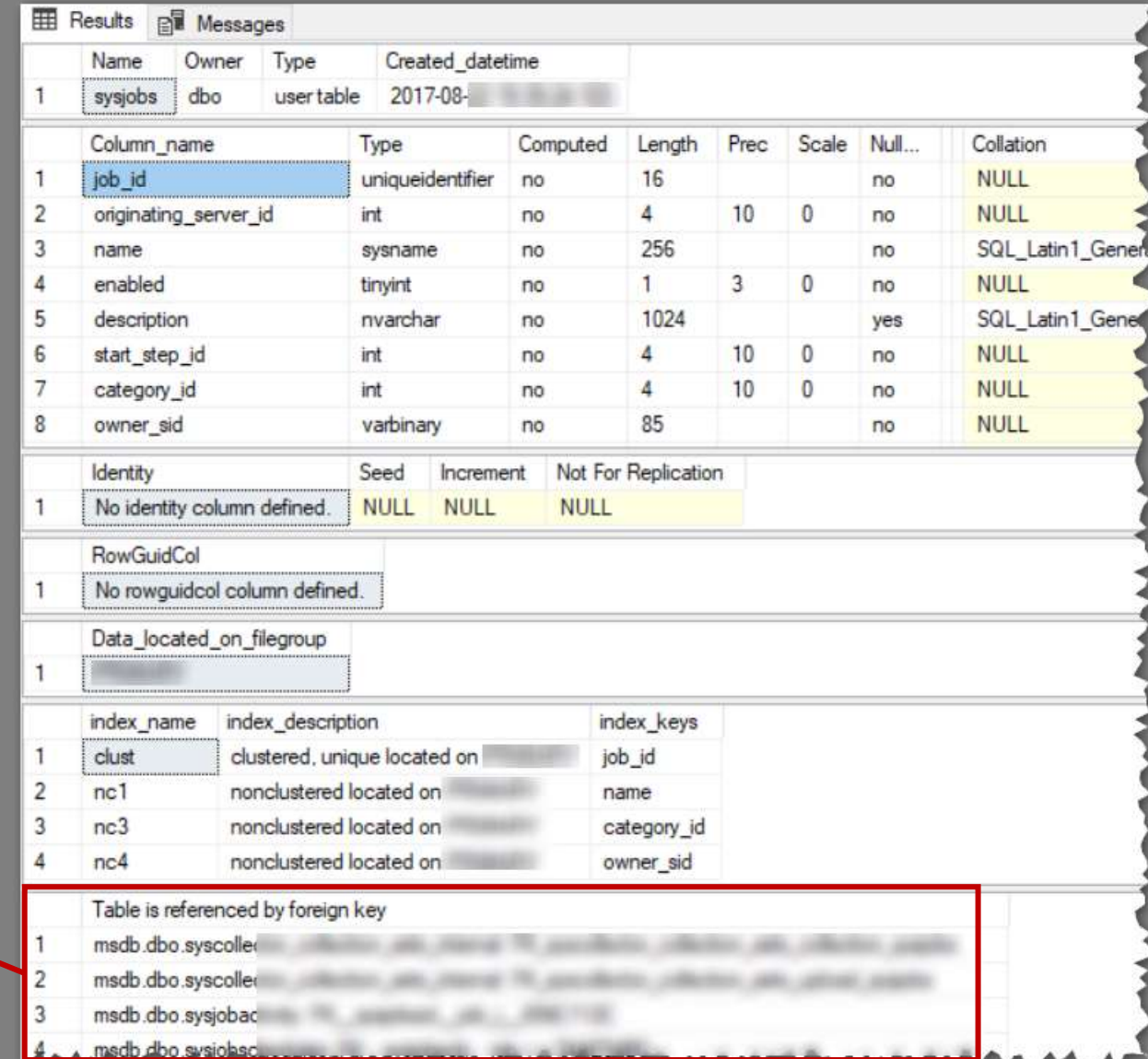
- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_help ‘sysjobs’ ”
- Analyze Results...
  - Table Details
  - Column Details
  - Identity Details (if exists)
  - Row GUID Details (if exists)
  - Filegroup Details
  - Index List + Details  
All in one place!!!

Results		Messages	
Table Details			
Name	Owner	Type	Created_datetime
sysjobs	dbo	user table	2017-08-10 10:10:10
Column Details			
Column_name	Type	Computed	Length
job_id	uniqueidentifier	no	16
originating_server_id	int	no	4
name	sysname	no	256
enabled	tinyint	no	1
description	nvarchar	no	1024
start_step_id	int	no	4
category_id	int	no	4
owner_sid	varbinary	no	85
Identity		Seed	Increment
No identity column defined.		NULL	NULL
RowGuidCol			
No rowguidcol column defined.			
Data_located_on_filegroup			
Index List + Details			
index_name	index_description	index_keys	
clust	clustered, unique located on [filegroup]	job_id	
nc1	nonclustered located on [filegroup]	name	
nc3	nonclustered located on [filegroup]	category_id	
nc4	nonclustered located on [filegroup]	owner_sid	
Table is referenced by foreign key			
1	msdb.dbo.syscollector_collection_set		
2	msdb.dbo.syscollector_collection_set		
3	msdb.dbo.sysjobactivity		
4	msdb.dbo.sysjobhistory		



# How to Use “sp\_help” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_help ‘sysjobs’ ”
- Analyze Results...
  - Table Details
  - Column Details
  - Identity Details (if exists)
  - Row GUID Details (if exists)
  - Filegroup Details
  - Index List + Details
  - Foreign Key References
- Bottom Line = Lot of Info All in One Place!!



Name	Owner	Type	Created_datetime
sysjobs	dbo	user table	2017-08-10 10:10:10

Column_name	Type	Computed	Length	Prec	Scale	Null...	Collation
job_id	uniqueidentifier	no	16			no	NULL
originating_server_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
name	sysname	no	256			no	SQL_Latin1_Gener
enabled	tinyint	no	1	3	0	no	NULL
description	nvarchar	no	1024			yes	SQL_Latin1_Gener
start_step_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
category_id	int	no	4	10	0	no	NULL
owner_sid	varbinary	no	85			no	NULL

Identity	Seed	Increment	Not For Replication
No identity column defined.	NULL	NULL	NULL

RowGuidCol
No rowguidcol column defined.

Data_located_on_filegroup

index_name	index_description	index_keys
clust	clustered, unique located on	job_id
nc1	nonclustered located on	name
nc3	nonclustered located on	category_id
nc4	nonclustered located on	owner_sid

Table is referenced by foreign key	
1	msdb.dbo.syscollector...
2	msdb.dbo.syscollector...
3	msdb.dbo.sysjobac...
4	msdb.dbo.sysjobsc...

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- **How to Use “sp\_monitor” to Troubleshoot Server Status**
- How to Use “sp\_who2” to Troubleshoot Deadlocks

# How to Use “sp\_monitor” for Troubleshooting

## Definitions for “sp\_monitor” ...

“...displays the **current values** returned by these functions and shows how much they have **changed since** the **last time** the **procedure** was **run**.”

– docs.Microsoft.com

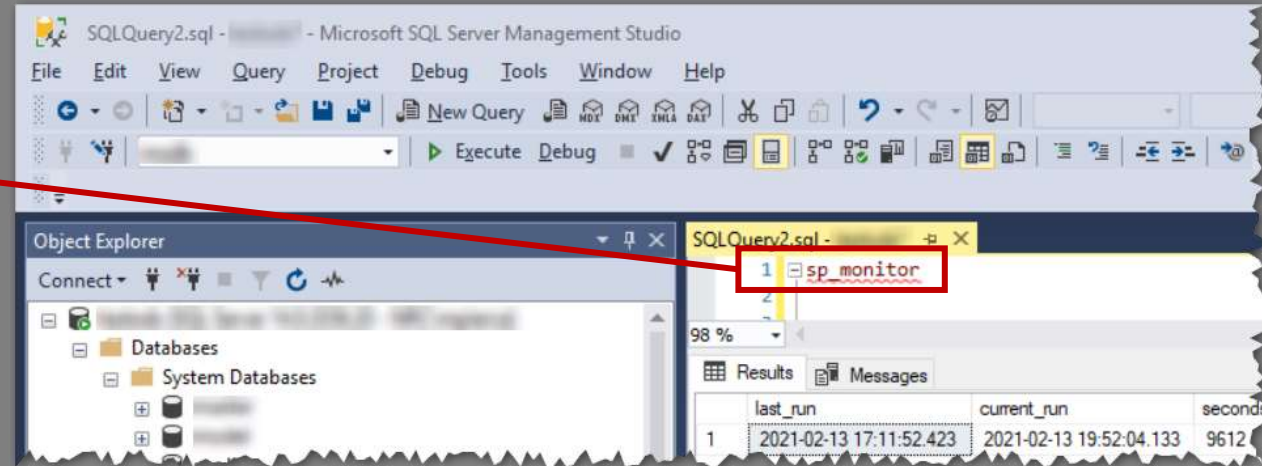
“This stored procedure reads the current row...into a temporary table and then inserts a new row and compares the difference between all the **various counters** tracked.”

– dba.stackexchange.com



# How to Use “sp\_monitor” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS...
- Execute “sp\_monitor”



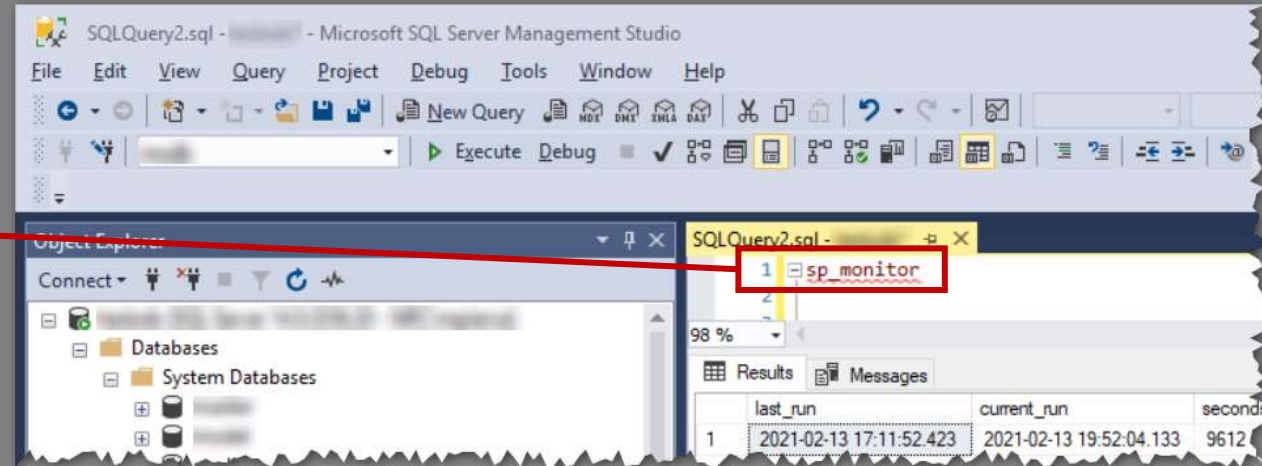
# How to Use “sp\_monitor” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_monitor”
  - Ignore and re-run if Overflow Error



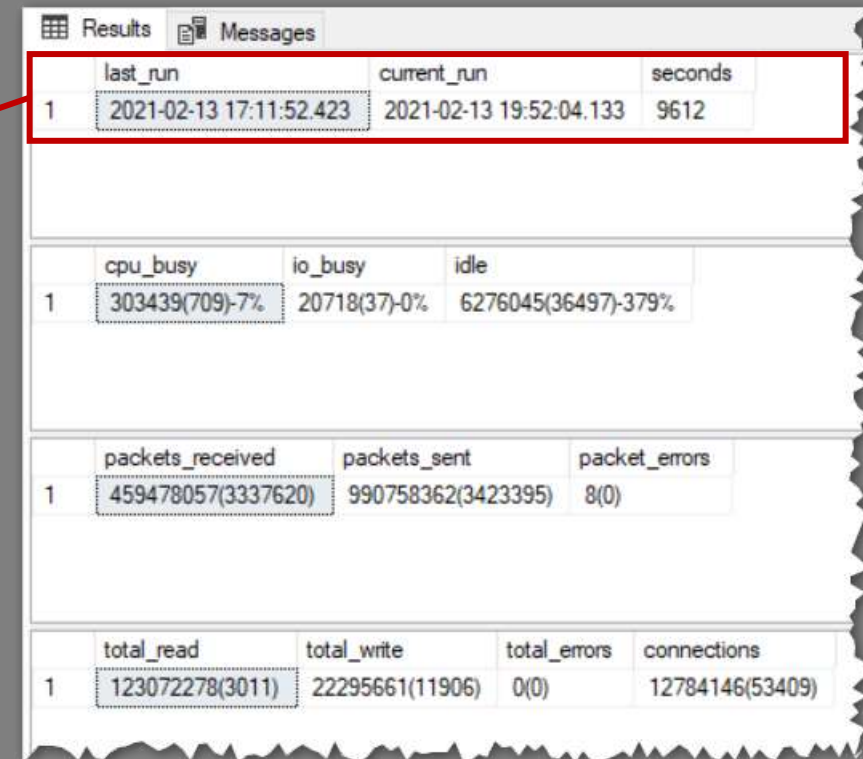
# How to Use “sp\_monitor” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_monitor”
- Wait 30sec...Execute “sp\_monitor”



# How to Use “sp\_monitor” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_monitor”
- Wait 30sec...Execute “sp\_monitor”
- Analyze Results...
  - Sec. 1 - Delta Between Runs



Results		Messages	
	last_run	current_run	seconds
1	2021-02-13 17:11:52.423	2021-02-13 19:52:04.133	9612

	cpu_busy	io_busy	idle
1	303439(709)-7%	20718(37)-0%	6276045(36497)-379%

	packets_received	packets_sent	packet_errors
1	459478057(3337620)	990758362(3423395)	8(0)

	total_read	total_write	total_errors	connections
1	123072278(3011)	22295661(11906)	0(0)	12784146(53409)

# How to Use “sp\_monitor” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_monitor”
- Wait 30sec...Execute “sp\_monitor”
- Analyze Results...
  - Sec. 1 - Delta Between Runs
  - Sec. 2 - CPU & IO Busy?

Results		Messages		
	last_run	current_run	seconds	
1	2021-02-13 17:11:52.423	2021-02-13 19:52:04.133	9612	
	cpu_busy	io_busy	idle	
1	303439(709)-7%	20718(37)-0%	6276045(36497)-379%	
	packets_received	packets_sent	packet_errors	
1	459478057(3337620)	990758362(3423395)	8(0)	
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# How to Use “sp\_monitor” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_monitor”
- Wait 30sec...Execute “sp\_monitor”
- Analyze Results...
  - Sec. 1 - Delta Between Runs
  - Sec. 2 - CPU & IO Busy?
  - Sec. 3 - Packets Received/Sent/Err

last_run		current_run	seconds
1	2021-02-13 17:11:52.423	2021-02-13 19:52:04.133	9612

cpu_busy	io_busy	idle	
1	303439(709)-7%	20718(37)-0%	6276045(36497)-379%

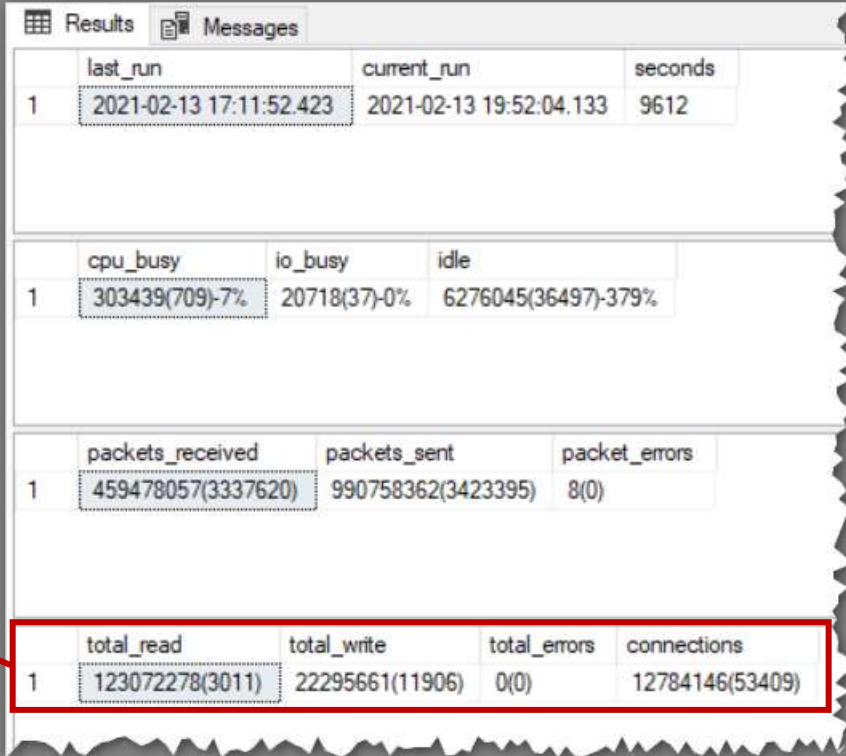
packets_received	packets_sent	packet_errors	
1	459478057(3337620)	990758362(3423395)	8(0)

total_read	total_write	total_errors	connections	
1	123072278(3011)	22295661(11906)	0(0)	12784146(53409)



# How to Use “sp\_monitor” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_monitor”
- Wait 30sec...Execute “sp\_monitor”
- Analyze Results...
  - Sec. 1 - Delta Between Runs
  - Sec. 2 - CPU & IO Busy?
  - Sec. 3 - Packets Received/Sent/Err
  - Sec. 4 – Total Reads/Writes/Err/Conn



	last_run	current_run	seconds
1	2021-02-13 17:11:52.423	2021-02-13 19:52:04.133	9612

	cpu_busy	io_busy	idle
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# SSMS Troubleshooting System Stored Procedures

- What are the Top 4 System Stored Procedures for Troubleshooting?
- How to Use “sp\_server\_info” to Troubleshoot Version, Case, & Isolation
- How to Use “sp\_help” to Troubleshoot Object Details
- How to Use “sp\_monitor” to Troubleshoot Server Status
- **How to Use “sp\_who2” to Troubleshoot Deadlocks**

# How to Use “sp\_who2” for Troubleshooting

## Definitions for “sp\_who2” ...

“sp\_who2 is a **undocumented** thus unsupported stored procedure in SQL Server, **but widely used** instead of sp\_who to list **processes currently active...**”

– [codeproject.com](http://codeproject.com)

“sp\_who2 should be part of every DBA's **troubleshooting toolbox**. It provides a great overview of what the connections are doing on the SQL Server and can quickly help the DBA find reasons for increases in application timeouts, high disk IO or high CPU pressure...”

– [dbadiaries.com](http://dbadiaries.com)

# How to Use “sp\_who2” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS...
- Execute “sp\_who2”



# How to Use “sp\_who2” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_who2”
- Analyze Results...
  - Output Columns

Column Name	Description
SPID	SQL Session ID
Status	Process Status ... <i>(come back to this one)</i>
Login	Login Name for Session
Host Name	Host or computer name login is connected to
BlkBy	Session ID for blocking process; blank=no blk; -2=orphaned distributed transaction
DBName	Database used by the session
Command	Database Engine command (T-SQL, etc.)
CPUTime	CPU time used by session
DiskIO	Disk IO used by session
LastBatch	Last time a batch request was run by session
ProgramName	Software application connecting to MSSQL
SPID	Repeated (wonder why?)
RequestID	ID for requests running in specific session

# How to Use “sp\_who2” for Troubleshooting

[dataresearchlabs.com](http://dataresearchlabs.com)

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_who2”
- Analyze Results...

Status	Description
Background	Session running system background task
Sleeping	Session is not doing anything, but connection open
Running	Session is running one or more batches
Suspended	Session is waiting for an event (eg: IO) to complete TempDB op to finish, etc. If long, chk PerfMon HD
Rollback	Session has a transaction rollback in progress
Runnable	Session’s task is in runnable queue of a scheduler while waiting to get a time quantum
Spinloop	Session’s task is waiting for a spinlock to free up
Dormant	Session is being reset
Pending	Session is waiting for a worker thread to free up

Column Name	Description
SPID	SQL Session ID
Status	Process Status
Login	Login Name for Session
Host Name	Host or computer name login is connected to
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# How to Use “sp\_who2” for Troubleshooting

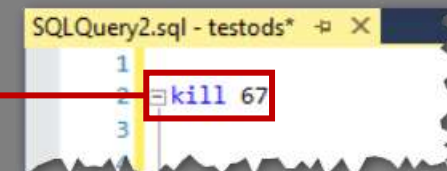
- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_who2”
- Analyze Results...
  - Output Columns
  - Blocking/Deadlocking = **Bad**
    - Look for Status = “Suspended”
    - ...and BlkBy column populated
    - Walk back up thru to parent spid (green)

SPID	Status	Login	HostName	BlkBy	DBName	Command
63	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
64	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
65	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
66	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
67	<b>RUNNING</b>			.		AWAITING C
69	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
70	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
71	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
72	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
73	<b>SUSPENDED</b>			67		SELECT
74	<b>SUSPENDED</b>			73		AWAITING C
75	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
76	sleeping			.		AWAITING C
77	sleeping			.		AWAITING C

# How to Use “sp\_who2” for Troubleshooting

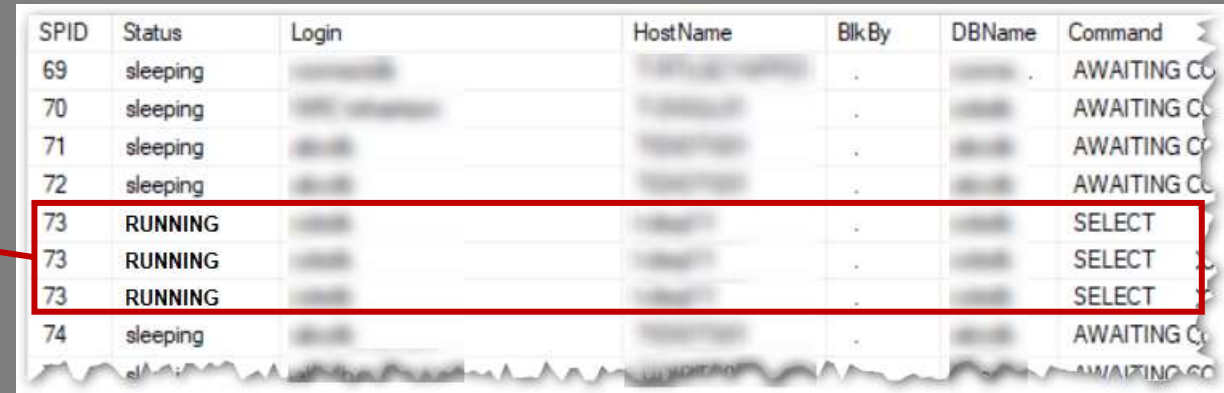
- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_who2”
- Analyze Results...
  - Output Columns
  - Blocking/Deadlocking = Bad
    - Look for Status = “Suspended”
    - ...and BlkBy column populated
    - Walk back up thru to parent spid (green)
    - Wait 20 sec, retry, if clears then move on
    - Else ask owner if okay to kill
    - Issue “kill <spid>” to cleanup  
(targeted spid 67 b/c is the root cause)

SPID	Status	Login	HostName	BlkBy	DBName	Command
63	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
64	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
65	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
66	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
67	RUNNING	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
69	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
70	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
71	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
72	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
73	SUSPENDED	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	67	tempdb	SELECT
74	SUSPENDED	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	73	tempdb	AWAITING C
75	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
76	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C
77	sleeping	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	SQLSERVER	.	tempdb	AWAITING C



# How to Use “sp\_who2” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_who2”
- Analyze Results...
  - Output Columns
  - Blocking/Deadlocking = Bad
  - Parallel Processes = **Bad**
    - Same SPID repeating
    - SQL Server determine query run long, so split across multiple threads. If frequent, devastating to perf, esp. IO
    - To Fix:
      - (a) Raise Query Threshold for Parallelism
      - (b) Turn down MAXDOP



SPID	Status	Login	HostName	Blk By	DBName	Command
69	sleeping			.		AWAITING CO
70	sleeping			.		AWAITING CO
71	sleeping			.		AWAITING CO
72	sleeping			.		AWAITING CO
73	RUNNING			.		SELECT
73	RUNNING			.		SELECT
73	RUNNING			.		SELECT
74	sleeping			.		AWAITING CO

# How to Use “sp\_who2” for Troubleshooting

- Starting from SSMS Query Window
- Execute “sp\_who2”
- Analyze Results...
  - Output Columns
  - Blocking/Deadlocking = Bad
  - Parallel Processes = Bad
  - High CPUTime or High DiskIO = **Bad**
    - Note: CPUTime + DiskIO = since reboot
    - Note: Write down before v. after f/delta
    - If CPUTime=High, but DiskIO = 0, then indicates bad execution plan

	SPID	Status	Command	CPUTime	DiskIO	LastBatch	ProgramName
61	65	sleeping	AWAITIN...	0	0	02/02 18:34:29	Microsoft SQL Server
62	66	sleeping	AWAITIN...	13511	183685	02/13 20:15:00	Microsoft SQL Server
63	67	sleeping	AWAITIN...	10434	302349	01/29 18:12:29	Microsoft SQL Server
64	69	sleeping	AWAITIN...	0	0	02/13 20:15:08	Microsoft SQL Server
65	70	sleeping	AWAITIN...	16	154	01/28 11:53:13	Microsoft SQL Server
66	71	sleeping	AWAITIN...	15	0	02/13 20:15:10	Microsoft SQL Server
67	72	sleeping	AWAITIN...	0	0	02/13 20:13:40	Microsoft SQL Server
68	73	SUSPENDED	SELECT	11984	0	02/13 19:09:45	Microsoft JDBC Driver for SQL Server
69	74	sleeping	AWAITIN...	16	0	02/13 20:15:10	Microsoft SQL Server
70	75	sleeping	AWAITIN...	0	0	01/29 13:06:56	Microsoft SQL Server
71	76	sleeping	AWAITIN...	0	0	02/13 20:12:54	Microsoft SQL Server
72	77	sleeping	AWAITIN...	16	0	02/13 20:15:25	Microsoft SQL Server
73	78	sleeping	AWAITIN...	95	16	01/29 15:05:27	Microsoft SQL Server
74	81	RUNNABLE	SELECT I...	1439	2152	02/13 20:15:26	Microsoft SQL Server

