

Data type	Description	Max size	Storage
char(n)	Fixed width character string	8,000 characters	Defined width
varchar(n)	Variable width character string	8,000 characters	2 bytes + number of chars
varchar(max)	Variable width character string	1,073,741,824 characters	2 bytes + number of chars
text	Variable width character string	2GB of text data	4 bytes + number of chars
nchar	Fixed width Unicode string	4,000 characters	Defined width x 2
nvarchar	Variable width Unicode string	4,000 characters	
nvarchar(max)	Variable width Unicode string	536,870,912 characters	
ntext	Variable width Unicode string	2GB of text data	
binary(n)	Fixed width binary string	8,000 bytes	
varbinary	Variable width binary string	8,000 bytes	
varbinary(max)	Variable width binary string	2GB	
image	Variable width binary string	2GB	
Data type	Description	Storage	
datetime	From January 1, 1753 to December 31, 9999 with an accuracy of 3.33 milliseconds	8 bytes	
datetime2	From January 1, 0001 to December 31, 9999 with an accuracy of 100 nanoseconds	6-8 bytes	
smalldatetime	From January 1, 1900 to June 6, 2079 with an accuracy of 1 minute	4 bytes	
date	Store a date only. From January 1, 0001 to December 31, 9999	3 bytes	
time	Store a time only to an accuracy of 100 nanoseconds	3-5 bytes	
datetimeoffset	The same as datetime2 with the addition of a time zone offset	8-10 bytes	
timestamp	Stores a unique number that gets updated every time a row gets created or modified. The timestamp value is based upon an internal clock and does not correspond to real time. Each table may have only one timestamp variable		
Data type	Description		
sql_variant	Stores up to 8,000 bytes of data of various data types, except text, ntext, and timestamp		

uniqueidentifier	Stores a globally unique identifier (GUID)		
xml	Stores XML formatted data. Maximum 2GB		
cursor	Stores a reference to a cursor used for database operations		
table	Stores a result-set for later processing		