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SQL WHERE Clause

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The SQL WHERE Clause

The WHERE clause is used to filter records.

It is used to extract only those records that fulfill a specified condition.

WHERE Syntax

```
SELECT column1, column2, ...
FROM table_name
WHERE condition;
```

Note: The WHERE clause is not only used in SELECT statements, it is also used in UPDATE, DELETE, etc.!

Demo Database

Below is a selection from the "Customers" table in the Northwind sample database:

CustomerID	CustomerName	ContactName	Address	City	PostalCode
1	Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Obere Str. 57	Berlin	12209
2	Ana Trujillo Emparedados y helados	Ana Trujillo	Avda. de la Constitución 2222	México D.F.	05021
3	Antonio Moreno Taquería	Antonio Moreno	Mataderos 2312	México D.F.	05023
4	Around the Horn	Thomas Hardy	120 Hanover Sq.	London	WA1 1DP

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WHERE Clause Example

The following SQL statement selects all the customers from the country "Mexico", in the "Customers" table:

Example

Get your own SQL Server

```
SELECT * FROM Customers
WHERE Country='Mexico';
```

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Text Fields vs. Numeric Fields

SQL requires single quotes around text values (most database systems will also allow double quotes).

However, numeric fields should not be enclosed in quotes:

Example

```
SELECT * FROM Customers
WHERE CustomerID=1;
```

Try it Yourself »

Operators in The WHERE Clause

The following operators can be used in the WHERE clause:

Operator	Description	Example
=	Equal	Try it
>	Greater than	Try it
<	Less than	Try it
>=	Greater than or equal	Try it
<=	Less than or equal	Try it
<>	Not equal. Note: In some versions of SQL this operator may be written as !=	Try it
BETWEEN	Between a certain range	Try it
LIKE	Search for a pattern	Try it
IN	To specify multiple possible values for a column	Try it

Test Yourself With Exercises

Exercise:

Select all records where the City column has the value "Berlin".

```
SELECT * FROM Customers = ;
```

Submit Answer »

Start the Exercise