

✓ What GROUP BY really does

GROUP BY tells SQL:

"Group rows that have the same values in these column(s), and then apply aggregate functions (like SUM, COUNT, AVG) to each group."

🔍 Why you might group by two columns

Let's say you have this data:

| order_date | order_id | total_price |
|------------|----------|-------------|
| 2023-01-01 | 101 | 100 |
| 2023-01-01 | 101 | 50 |
| 2023-01-01 | 102 | 200 |
| 2023-01-02 | 103 | 300 |

If you run:

```
Sql > Copy
```

```
SELECT order_date, order_id, SUM(total_price)
FROM orders
GROUP BY order_date, order_id
```

You'll get:

| order_date | order_id | total_price |
|------------|----------|-------------|
| 2023-01-01 | 101 | 150 |
| 2023-01-01 | 102 | 200 |
| 2023-01-02 | 103 | 300 |

Each group is defined by the combination of order_date and order_id.

💬 When grouping by multiple columns makes sense

- You want to preserve granularity (e.g. per order per day).
- You're aggregating per customer per month, or per product per category.
- You're joining tables and need to group by both keys.

 So yes, you can group by one, two, or even ten columns — SQL doesn't mind!