

# Module 12: Implementing Triggers

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## Overview

- Introduction to Triggers
- Defining Triggers
- How Triggers Work
- Examples of Triggers
- Performance Considerations

# ◆ Introduction to Triggers

**What Is a  
Trigger?**

**Uses of  
Triggers**

**Considerations  
for Using  
Triggers**

# What Is a Trigger?

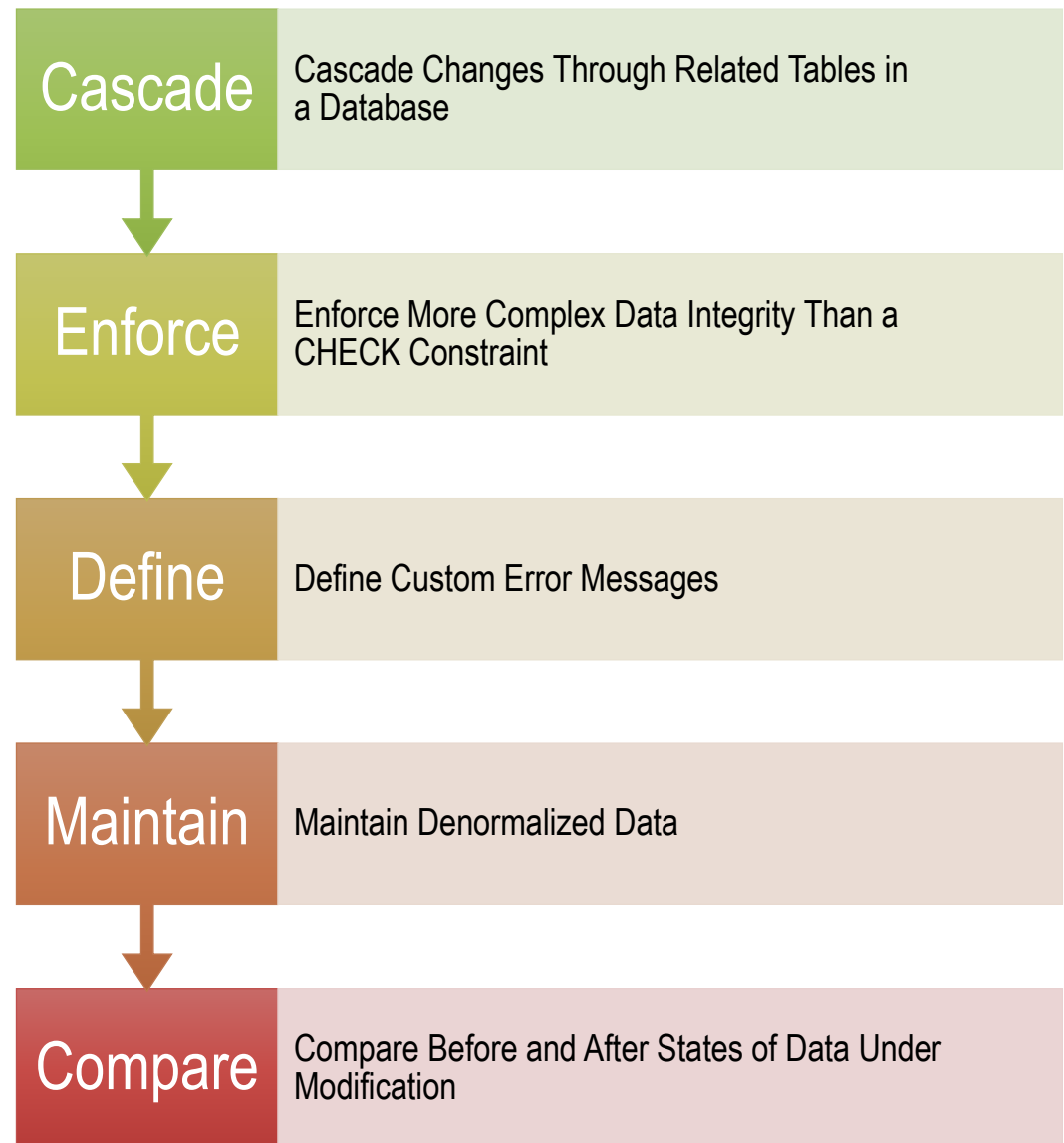
**Associated  
with a Table**

**Invoked  
Automatically**

**Cannot Be  
Called Directly**

**Is Part of a  
Transaction**

# Uses of Triggers



# Considerations for Using Triggers

**Triggers Are Reactive;  
Constraints Are  
Proactive**

**Constraints Are  
Checked First**

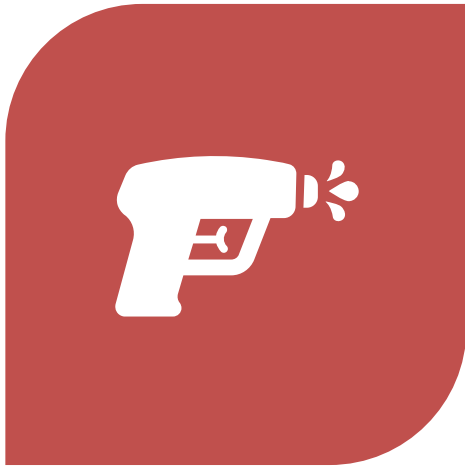
**Tables Can Have  
Multiple Triggers for  
Any Action**

**Table Owners Can  
Designate the First  
and Last Trigger to  
Fire**

**You Must Have  
Permission to Perform  
All Statements That  
Define Triggers**

**Table Owners Cannot  
Create AFTER Triggers  
on Views or Temporary  
Tables**

# ◆ Defining Triggers



**CREATING TRIGGERS**



**ALTERING AND  
DROPPING TRIGGERS**



# Creating Triggers

- **Requires Appropriate Permissions**
- **Cannot Contain Certain Statements**

```
Use Northwind
GO
CREATE TRIGGER Emp1_Delete ON Employees
FOR DELETE
AS
IF (SELECT COUNT(*) FROM Deleted) > 1
BEGIN
    RAISERROR(
        'You cannot delete more than one employee at a time.', 16, 1)
    ROLLBACK TRANSACTION
END
```



# Altering and Dropping Triggers

## ■ Altering a Trigger

- Changes the definition without dropping the trigger
- Can disable or enable a trigger

```
USE Northwind
GO
ALTER TRIGGER Emp1_Delete ON Employees
FOR DELETE
AS
IF (SELECT COUNT(*) FROM Deleted) > 6
BEGIN
    RAISERROR(
        'You cannot delete more than six employees at a time.', 16, 1)
    ROLLBACK TRANSACTION
END
```

## ■ Dropping a Trigger

# ◆ How Triggers Work

How an  
INSERT  
Trigger Works

How a  
DELETE  
Trigger Works

How an  
UPDATE  
Trigger Works

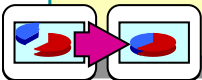
How an  
INSTEAD OF  
Trigger Works

How Nested  
Triggers Work

Recursive  
Triggers

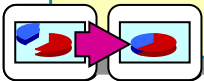
# How an INSERT Trigger Works

- 1 **INSERT Statement to a Table with an INSERT Trigger Defined**
- 2 **INSERT Statement Logged**
- 3 **Trigger Actions Executed**



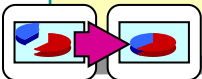
# How a DELETE Trigger Works

- 1 **DELETE Statement to a Table with a DELETE Statement Defined**
- 2 **DELETE Statement Logged**
- 3 **Trigger Actions Executed**



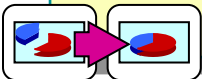
# How an UPDATE Trigger Works

- 1 **UPDATE Statement to a Table with an UPDATE Trigger Defined**
- 2 **UPDATE Statement Logged as INSERT and DELETE Statements**
- 3 **Trigger Actions Executed**



# How an INSTEAD OF Trigger Works

- 1 **INSTEAD OF Trigger Can Be on a Table or View**
- 2 **The Action That Initiates the Trigger Does NOT Occur**
- 3 **Allows Updates to Views Not Previously Updateable**



# How Nested Triggers Work

OrDe\_Update

<i>Order_Details</i>				
<i>OrderID</i>	<i>ProductID</i>	<i>UnitPrice</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Discount</i>
10522	10	31.00	7	0.2
10523	41	9.65	9	0.15
10524	7	30.00	24	0.0
10525	2	19.00	5	0.2

InStock\_Update

<i>Products</i>			
<i>ProductID</i>	<i>UnitsInStock</i>	...	...
1	15		
2	15		
3	65		
4	20		

UnitsInStock + UnitsOnOrder  
is < ReorderLevel for ProductID 2

Placing an order causes the OrDe\_Update trigger to execute

Executes an UPDATE statement on the Products table

InStock\_Update trigger executes

Sends message



# Recursive Triggers



## Activating a Trigger Recursively



## Types of Recursive Triggers

*Direct recursion* occurs when a trigger fires and performs an action that causes the same trigger to fire again

*Indirect recursion* occurs when a trigger fires and performs an action that causes a trigger on another table to fire



## Determining Whether to Use Recursive Triggers

# ◆ Examples of Triggers



**ENFORCING DATA  
INTEGRITY**



**ENFORCING BUSINESS  
RULES**

# Enforcing Data Integrity

```
CREATE TRIGGER BackOrderList_Delete
  ON Products FOR UPDATE
AS
IF (SELECT BO.ProductID FROM BackOrders AS BO JOIN
    Inserted AS I ON BO.ProductID = I.Product_ID
    ) > 0
BEGIN
  DELETE BO FROM BackOrders AS BO
  INNER JOIN Inserted AS I
  ON BO.ProductID = I.ProductID
END
```

<i>Products</i>			
<i>ProductID</i>	<i>UnitsInStock</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>
1	15		
2	15		
3	65		
4	20		



Updated

Trigger Deletes Row

<i>BackOrders</i>		
<i>ProductID</i>	<i>UnitsOnOrder</i>	<i>...</i>
1	15	
12	10	
3	65	
2	15	

# Enforcing Business Rules

## Products with Outstanding Orders Cannot Be Deleted

```
IF (Select Count (*)  
    FROM [Order Details] INNER JOIN deleted  
    ON [Order Details].ProductID = deleted.ProductID  
    ) > 0  
ROLLBACK TRANSACTION
```

DELETE statement executed on  
Product table

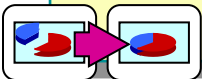
Trigger code  
checks the Order Details  
table

Transaction  
rolled back

<i>Products</i>			
<i>ProductID</i>	<i>UnitsInStock</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>
1	15		
2	0		
3	65		
4	20		

<i>Order Details</i>				
<i>OrderID</i>	<i>ProductID</i>	<i>UnitPrice</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Discount</i>
10522	10	31.00	7	0.2
10523	2	19.00	9	0.15
10524	41	9.65	24	0.0
10525	7	30.00		

'Transaction cannot be processed'  
'This product has order history'



# Performance Considerations

**Triggers Work Quickly Because the Inserted and Deleted Tables Are in Cache**

**Execution Time Is Determined by:**

- Number of tables that are referenced
- Number of rows that are affected

**Actions Contained in Triggers Implicitly Are Part of a Transaction**

# Recommended Practices



**Use Triggers Only When Necessary**



**Keep Trigger Definition Statements as Simple as Possible**

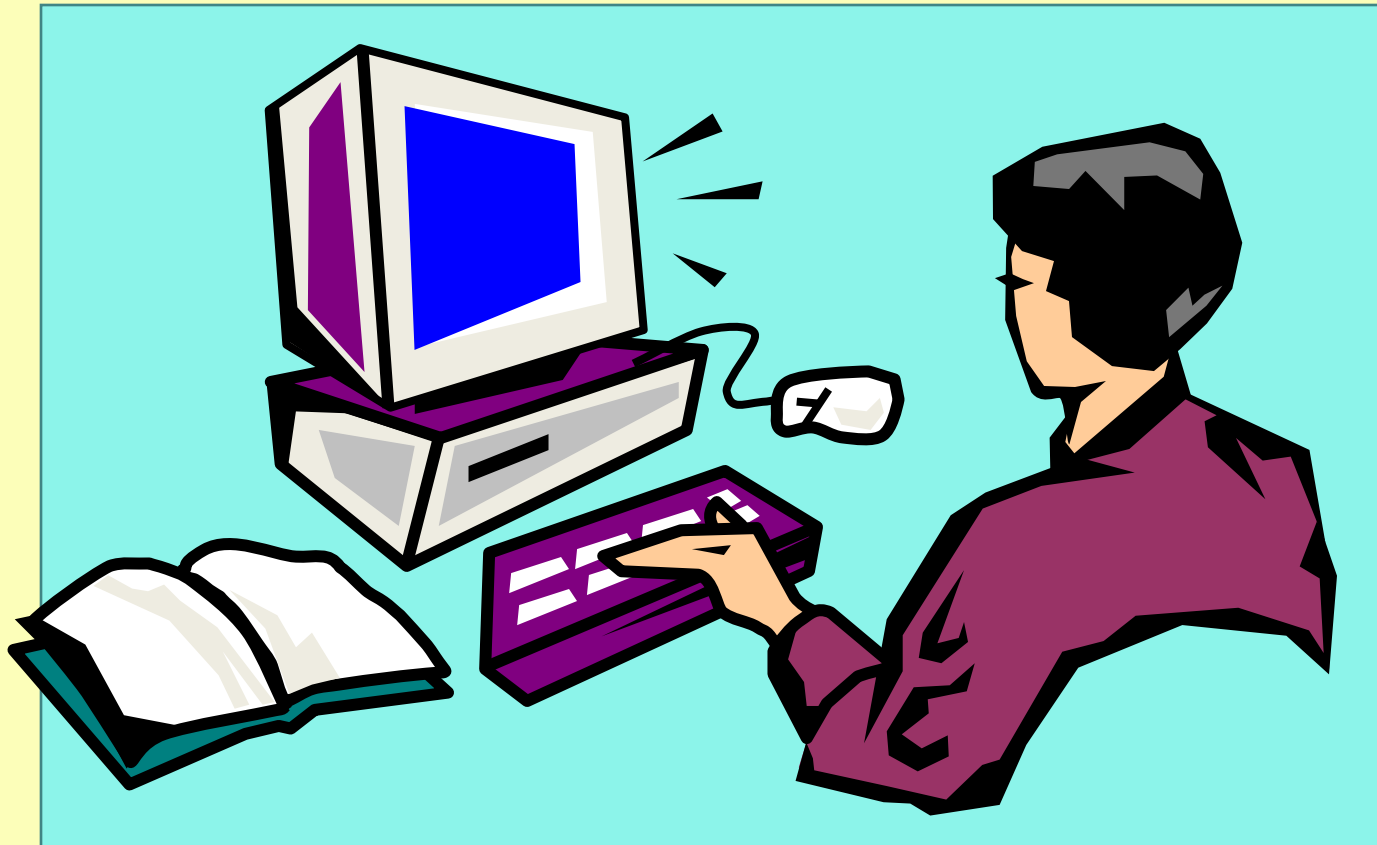


**Include Recursion Termination Check Statements in Recursive Trigger Definitions**



**Minimize Use of ROLLBACK Statements in Triggers**

# Lab: Creating Triggers





# Review

Introduction to Triggers

Defining Triggers

How Triggers Work

Examples of Triggers

Performance Considerations

# Module References

- Create Trigger (Transact-SQL) - [https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/t-sql/statements/create-trigger-transact-sql?f1url=%3Fappld%3DDev15IDEF1%26l%3DEN-US%26k%3Dk\(create\\_trigger\\_TSQL\);k\(sql13.swb.tsqldataresults.f1\);k\(sql13.swb.tsqldataquery.f1\);k\(MiscellaneousFilesProject\);k\(DevLang-TSQL\)%26rd%3Dtrue&view=sql-server-ver15](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/t-sql/statements/create-trigger-transact-sql?f1url=%3Fappld%3DDev15IDEF1%26l%3DEN-US%26k%3Dk(create_trigger_TSQL);k(sql13.swb.tsqldataresults.f1);k(sql13.swb.tsqldataquery.f1);k(MiscellaneousFilesProject);k(DevLang-TSQL)%26rd%3Dtrue&view=sql-server-ver15)
- Create Trigger Oracle Database - [https://docs.oracle.com/cd/B19306\\_01/server.102/b14200/statements\\_7004.htm](https://docs.oracle.com/cd/B19306_01/server.102/b14200/statements_7004.htm)
- Create Trigger MySQL Database - <https://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.7/en/create-trigger.html>
- Microsoft Official Curriculum – Programming Microsoft SQL Server