

Optimize Your SELECT Statements for Faster Queries!

SELECT statements retrieve data from databases, but poorly optimized queries can slow things down.

1

Avoid **SELECT *** in Queries

- Be specific about the columns you need.
- Because **SELECT *** loads all columns, slowing down performance.

```
SELECT OrderID , OrderDate, CustomerName  
      , Sales, Profit  
FROM orders
```

2

Use Indexes on Required Columns

- Indexes speed up data retrieval by limiting rows scanned.
- Focus on columns frequently used in WHERE, JOIN, or ORDER BY.

```
CREATE INDEX IdxCustomerName ON  
orders(CustomerName);
```

3

Avoid Functions in WHERE Clause

Problem: Functions in WHERE clauses prevent indexes from being used.

Non-optimized Query:

```
SELECT OrderID, OrderDate, Sales
FROM orders
WHERE DATE_ADD(OrderDate, INTERVAL 30 DAY)
      = current_date();
```

Optimized Query:

```
SELECT OrderID, OrderDate, Sales
FROM orders
WHERE OrderDate
      = DATE_ADD(current_date(), INTERVAL - 30 DAY);
```

4

Avoid Leading Wildcards in LIKE

- Problem: % at the start of a string forces a full scan.
- Solution: Use trailing wildcards or reverse column design.

```
SELECT OrderID, OrderDate, CustomerName, Sales  
FROM orders  
WHERE ReverseCustomerName LIKE 'Miller%';
```

5

Use INNER JOIN for Efficiency

- INNER JOIN is faster than OUTER JOIN because it only returns matching rows.

```
SELECT c.CustomerName, od.OrderID, od.OrderDate,  
       od.Sales, od.Profit  
FROM Customers c  
INNER JOIN Order_Details od  
ON c.CustomerID = od.CustomerID  
WHERE od.OrderDate BETWEEN '2024-10-01' AND '2024-10-07';
```

6

Use UNION ALL instead of UNION

- Why?: UNION sorts and removes duplicates, slowing performance.
- Solution: Use UNION ALL to avoid this.

```
SELECT CustomerID, CustomerName, Segment, City, State  
FROM customers_2023  
UNION ALL  
SELECT CustomerID, CustomerName, Segment, City, State  
FROM customers_2024;
```

7

Apply Filters Early in Queries

- Filter records before grouping to reduce the workload.

```
SELECT CustomerID, SUM(Sales) AS TotalSales  
FROM Orders  
WHERE State = 'California' -- Filter before grouping  
GROUP BY CustomerID;
```


8

Replace OR with IN for Better Performance

- Problem: Multiple OR clauses slow down query execution.
- Solution: Use the IN operator for faster performance.

```
SELECT CustomerID, CustomerName  
FROM Customers  
WHERE  
    City IN ('New York', 'Los Angeles', 'Chicago');
```

9

Avoid Subqueries for Performance

- Subqueries can cause multiple table scans, leading to inefficiency.
- Use JOIN instead for better performance.

```
SELECT DISTINCT c.CustomerID, c.CustomerName  
FROM customers c  
JOIN order_details od  
ON c.CustomerID = od.CustomerID  
WHERE od.Sales > 2000;
```

10

Use Common Table Expressions (CTEs)

- CTEs break down complex queries into simpler parts.
- They improve both readability and efficiency.

```
WITH TotalSalesCTE AS (  
    SELECT CustomerID, SUM(Sales) AS TotalSales  
    FROM Order_Details  
    GROUP BY CustomerID)  
SELECT c.CustomerID, c.CustomerName, ts.TotalSales  
FROM Customers c  
LEFT JOIN TotalSalesCTE ts ON c.CustomerID = ts.CustomerID;
```

11

Use LIMIT for Large Datasets

- Limit the number of rows returned to reduce database load.

```
SELECT OrderID, OrderDate, Sales  
FROM orders  
LIMIT 10;
```

11

Summary of Key Techniques

- Efficient SELECT queries lead to faster response times and a better user experience.
- Implement best practices like using indexes, avoiding unnecessary functions, and filtering early!
- Start optimizing your queries today!

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