

# Comments

**SQL Comments** explain sections of SQL statements or prevent SQL statements from being executed.

There are **3 types of comments** in SQL:

1. Single-line comments
2. Multi-line comments
3. In-line comments

These are the three commenting methods in SQL, each with its unique use. Let's discuss these SQL comments in detail below:

## SQL Single Line Comments

**SQL Single Line Comments** contain a single line a comment. They start and end in a single line.

Single Line comments in SQL can be inserted using '-' before the line.

### Syntax

Syntax to insert single line comment in SQL is:

```
-- This is a single line comment
```

## SQL Single Line Comments

In this example, we use a single line comment to explain a query in SQL.

### Query

```
-- query to fetch customers records.  
SELECT * FROM customers;
```

## SQL Multi-Line Comments

**SQL Multi-line comments** contain multiple lines in a single comment. They start from one line and ends in a different line.

A multi-line comment starts with '/\*' and is terminated when '\*/' is encountered.

### Syntax

```
/* multi line comment  
another comment */  
  
SELECT * FROM customers;
```

The syntax to insert a multi-line comment in SQL is:

### Multi-Line Comments Example

In this example, we will use the Multi-line comment to explain a complex query.

#### Query

```
/*  
The query selects all the orders from the orders  
table that were placed in the year 2022.  
*/  
  
SELECT * FROM orders WHERE YEAR(order_date) = 2022;
```

### SQL In-Line Comments

**SQL In-line comments** are an extension of multi-line comments, these comments are used in between of a SQL statement.

An In-Line comment starts with '/\*' and end with '\*/'.

#### Syntax

The syntax to use In-Line Comments in SQL is:

```
SELECT * FROM /* Customers; */
```

### SQL In-Line Comments Example

In this example, we are using In-Line comments in SQL to explain information about table.

#### Query

```
SELECT customer_name,  
/* This column contains the name of the customer  
*/  
order_date  
/* This column contains the date the order was placed  
*/  
FROM orders;
```

### Important Points About SQL Comments

- **SQL comments are annotations in the code that are not executed by the SQL engine** – They serve as notes or explanations for human readers to understand the code better.
- **There are 3 types of comments in SQL** – Single Line comments, Multi-Line comments, and In-line comments.
- **Proper use of comments in SQL can make scripts easier to understand, maintain, and debug** – Comments facilitate quicker reviews and onboarding of new team members.
- **SQL comments are not supported in Microsoft Access databases** – Comments may not be utilized in Microsoft Access SQL queries.
- **Some databases, like Oracle, provide additional features for commenting** – For example, Oracle offers the COMMENT ON statement to attach explanatory text to database objects.