

Command Reference: CompareTables()

Compare tables

Version 09.10.01, 2010-09-23

The `CompareTables()` command compares columns from two tables, saving the results in a new table. Comparisons are made using the data values formatted as strings; however, in the future features may be enabled to compare numerical values to a tolerance. Values that are the same are shown in the new table without modification. Values that are different result in both table values being shown to allow comparison. The command also allows the comparison table to be output to an HTML file, in which case different values are shown as red.

The following dialog is used to edit the command and illustrates the syntax of the command.

Edit CompareTables() Command

This command compares two tables and highlights differences.
By default, all columns (and rows) from the specified tables are compared; however, the columns to compare can be specified.
The table is compared by formatting cell values as strings.
The results are placed in a new table, which if written as HTML indicates differences (the normal table view will not color the differences).

Table1 ID: Required - first table to compare.

Table2 ID: Required - second table to compare.

Table 1 columns to compare: Optional - default is to compare all.

Table 2 columns to compare: Optional - default is to compare all.

New table ID: Optional - unique identifier for the comparison table.

Output file to write:

Action if different: Optional - action if tables are different (default=Ignore).

Action if same: Optional - action if tables are the same (default=Ignore).

Command:

```
CompareTables (Table1ID="table1", Table2ID="table2", NewTableID="comparison", OutputFile="comparison.html", IfDifferent=Warn)
```

CompareTables

CompareTables() Command Editor

The command syntax is as follows:

```
CompareTables (Parameter=Value,...)
```

Command Parameters

Parameter	Description	Default
TableID1	The identifier for the first table to be compared.	None – must be specified.
TableID2	The identifier for the second table to be compared.	None – must be specified.
CompareColumns1	The names of columns to be compared from the first table, separated by columns.	All columns will be compared.
CompareColumns2	The names of columns to be compared from the second table, separated by columns.	All columns will be compared.
NewTableID	The identifier for the new comparison table.	A default will be assigned but will not be available to other commands.
OutputFile	If specified, an HTML table will be created for the comparison table, in which different values are highlighted in red.	No HTML output file will be created.
IfDifferent	Indicates the action to be taken if the tables are different: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ignore – do not generate warning• Warn – generate a warning message• Fail – generate a failure message	Do not generate a warning if the tables are different.
IfSame	Indicates the action to be taken if the tables are the same: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ignore – do not generate warning• Warn – generate a warning message• Fail – generate a failure message	Do not generate a warning if the tables are the same.