Data Manipulation Language

- SELECT
 - SELECT INTO
 - Temp Tables
- INSERT
 - Basic Insert
 - Using OpenRowset
 - External Data into SQL Server

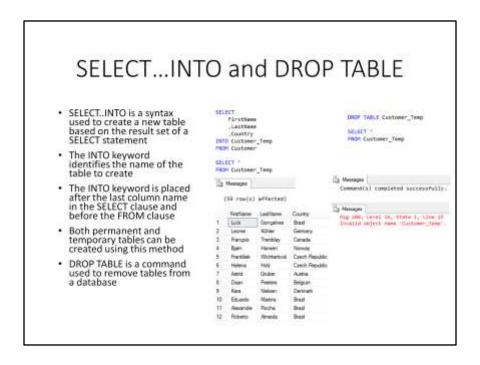
- UPDATE
- DELETE
- TRUNCATE TABLE

This presentation will cover SQL Server's data manipulation language. The DML includes the SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE and DELETE statements. I will also talk a little bit about temporary tables, and pulling data from external data sources.

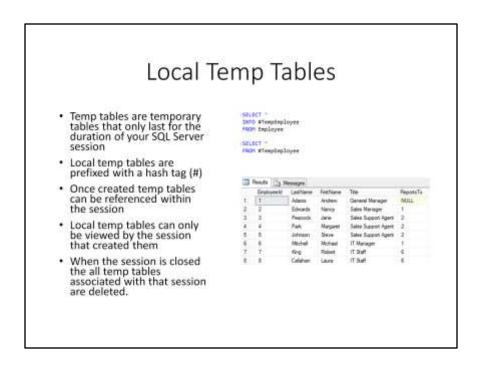
SELECT Statement

- The SELECT statement is a member of the DML family
- · Used to read data from a database
- · SELECT syntax covered in previous lessons

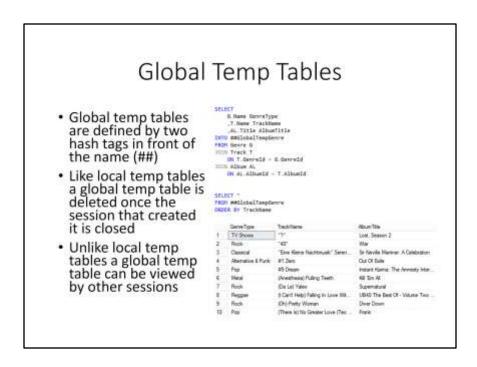
I have covered SELECT statement syntax in previous presentations but it is important to note that the SELECT statement is part of the data manipulation language family. It is used to read data from a database and is by far the most commonly used statement in the SQL language.



The SELECT INTO statement is used to quickly create a new table based on the query output of the SELECT statement. The INTO keyword is placed between the last column and the FROM clause. You enter the name of the table to create immediately after the INTO keyword. The table created will have datatypes based on the column datatypes of the result set. Both permanent and temporary tables can be created this way. I'll cover temp tables in the next slides. If you wish to remove a table entirely from the database, use the DROP TABLE command followed by the table name. See the example for details.



Temporary tables are tables that are created in a SQL Server session and only exist as long as the session remains active. A local temp table is created by inserting a single hash mark at the beginning of the table name. Once a local temp table is created it can be referenced by the subsequent queries executed in the same session. This is an important point to remember. A local temp table cannot be queried by any sessions other than the one that initially created it. Once the session is closed, the temp table is automatically deleted.

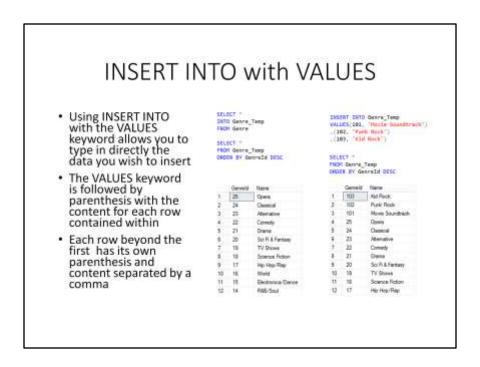


A global temporary table is created by adding two hash marks to the front of the table name. It is similar to a local temp table in that it is active only as long as the session that created it is active. Once the session is closed, the global temp table is deleted. However a global temp table differs from a local temp in that it can be queried by other sessions connected to the database. This means if you create a global temp table in your database session, all other users connected to the database will be able to access, view, and even modify the global temp table.

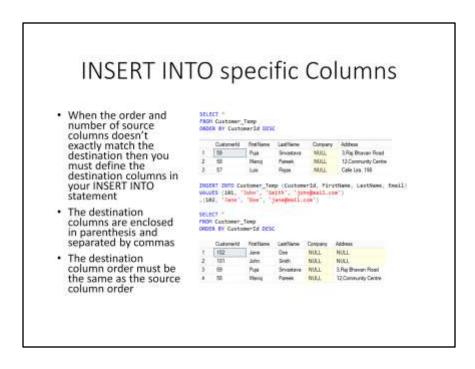
INSERT Statement

- INSERT statement is used to add one or more rows of data into an existing table
- The data inserted can come from different sources
 - Data values are typed directly into the INSERT statement using the VALUES keyword
 - · Data is read from a different table in SQL Server
 - Data comes from an external source such as a text file or Excel spreadsheet
- · 2 different ways to insert data in T-SQL
 - · Enter data manually using the VALUES clause
 - Insert data from another table using the INSERT INTO clause

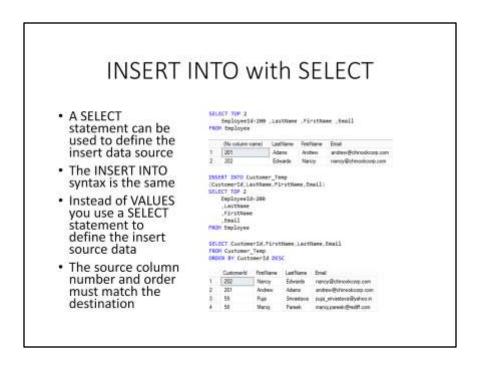
The INSERT statement is used to add additional data rows to a table that already exists in your SQL server. The data you wish to insert can be manually typed into the INSERT statement itself, it can come from another table in SQL Server, or it can come from a data source entirely external to SQL Server such as a spreadsheet, XML, or text file.



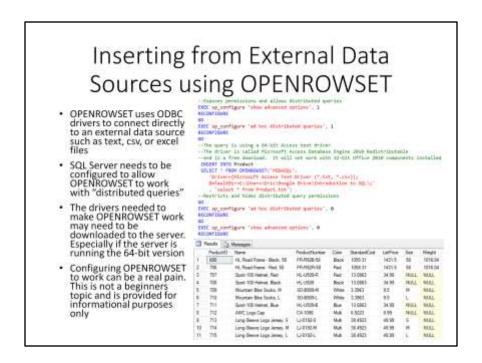
An INSERT statement begins with the INSERT keyword followed by the optional INTO keyword and the name of the table into which you are inserting the data. If you wish to include the data values to be inserted in your SQL script, you need to use the VALUES keyword. The VALUES keyword tells the SQL Server that one or more rows of data are to follow. Each row to be inserted must be enclosed in parenthesis with commas separating multiple columns. In addition each row must also be separated by a comma. It is important that the number and order of the columns in the VALUE statements match the number and order of columns in the insertion table.



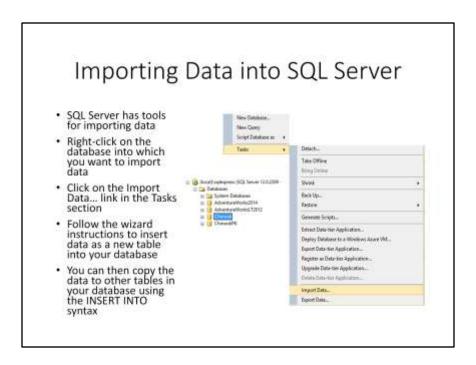
Sometimes the columns of data you wish to insert are less than the total number of columns in the table, or the columns may not be in the right order. When this is the case you need to define the columns on the destination table into which you will be inserting. You do this by entering the table's columns after the table name, separated by commas and enclosed in parenthesis. Only the columns you enter will get data inserted into them. The order of the destination columns needs to be the same as the order of the source column values.



A SELECT statement can be used as the source for data to insert into a table. Instead of typing the values in your SQL script, you execute a SELECT statement and the results of that statement are used as the input for the INSERT statement. The syntax for the INSERT statement line is the same. However you replace the VALUES statement with a standard SELECT statement. Column number and order is still important. You need to make sure the source columns match up with the destination columns otherwise the query will error out, or worse, insert data into the wrong columns.



It is possible insert data into a table from an external data source such as an Excel or text file. This can be accomplished by using the OPENROWSET function. The OPENROWSET function takes an external data source and allows it to be read as if it were a table in the FROM clause. To get OPENROWSET to work, you need to have the correct ODBC driver installed on your computer and you need to enable SQL Server to allow query connections to external data sources. This can be a real pain to set up, and it can have security implications if left open. This is an advanced SQL Server topic, but I present it here so you can see what is possible.

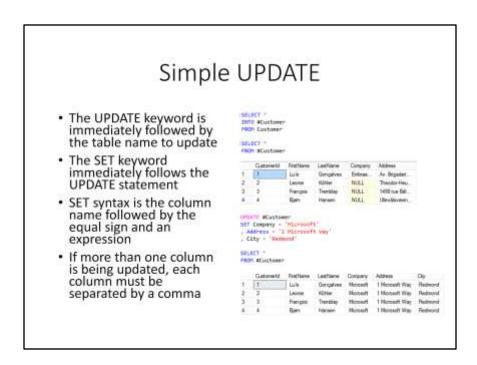


SQL Server Management Studio provides a built-in tool for importing data into SQL Server. You can access the import wizard by right-clicking on the name of the database into which you are importing on the Object Explorer window. You then select Tasks from the dropdown menu then Import Data to open the import wizard. The wizard will prompt you for the data source type you will be importing as well as the destination on your SQL Server. My preferred method is to import the external data into a new table, then run one or more INSERT INTO statements to copy the data into my existing database tables.

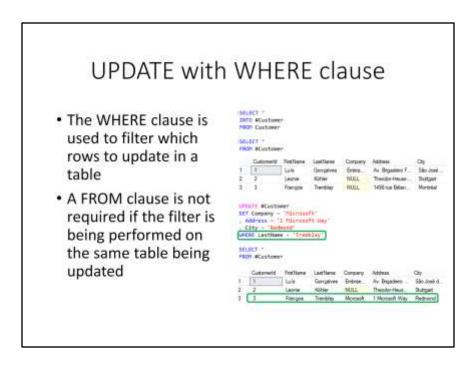
UPDATE Statement

- The UPDATE statement is used to update one or more rows of existing data in a table
- The SET keyword is required with an UPDATE statement. It defines which columns to update as well as to which values to update them
- A WHERE clause is used to define which rows the UPDATE clause will update
- If no WHERE clause is used then the entire table will be updated by the UPDATE statement

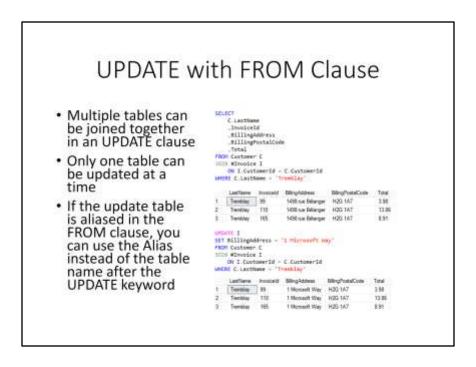
The UPDATE statement is used to update data that already exists in a table. With the UPDATE statement you can select which columns to update using the SET keyword and which rows to update using a standard WHERE clause. The SET keyword is required but not the WHERE clause. If you omit the WHERE clause then all the rows in the table will be updated.



The syntax for an UPDATE statement starts with the UPDATE keyword followed by the name of the table to update. Afterwards you enter the SET keyword followed by the columns you wish to update. Each column name is followed by an equal sign and the expression to which you want the column updated. If there is more than one column, they need to be separated by commas.



If you only want to update specific rows in your table, then your UPDATE statement needs to include a WHERE clause. The WHERE clause will identify which rows in the table to update.

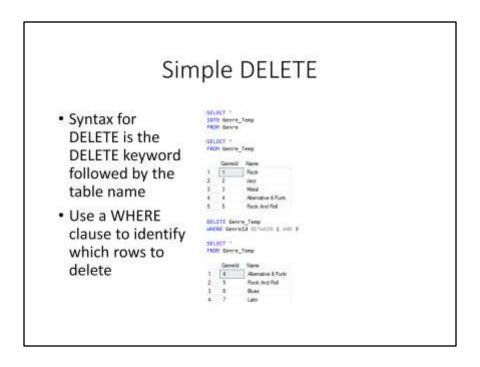


Only one table can be updated in a UPDATE statement, but it is possible to include multiple tables in the FROM clause. A FROM clause is optional and is usually included when the data you will be filtering on is not in the same table as the table you will be updating. If you use a from clause and you alias your tables, you can use the Alias name instead of the table name after the UPDATE keyword.

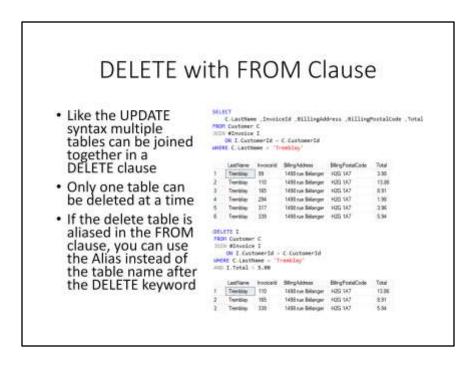
DELETE Statement

- The DELETE statement is used to remove one or more rows of existing data in a table
- DELETE Syntax is similar to UPDATE syntax except there is no SET keyword
- A WHERE clause is used to define which rows the DELETE clause will delete
- If no WHERE clause is used then the entire table content will be deleted by the DELETE clause. The table itself will not be deleted

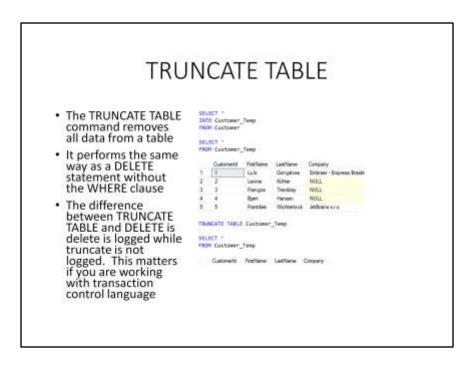
The DELETE statement is used to remove one or more rows from a table in your database. The syntax for a DELETE statement is similar to that of an UPDATE statement. The major difference being that there is no SET keyword available. This makes sense because you can only delete rows with the DELETE statement. The WHERE clause is optional in a DELETE statement, but if you choose not to use one, then the entire contents of the table will be deleted.



The syntax for a DELETE statement is relatively simple. You enter the DELETE keyword followed by the name of the table. The WHERE clause is optional and comes after the table name. It allows you to filter which records you want to delete.



Similar to an UDATE statement, a DELETE statement can have multiple tables in its FROM clause although you are only allowed to delete records from one table. Again the idea behind using a FROM clause is that you need to include data from a separate table for filtering that is not included in the deletion table itself. If you alias the table names in the FROM clause, you can use the alias name instead of the table name in the DELETE clause.



Another way to remove data from a table is by using the TRUNCATE TABLE statement. The TRUNCATE TABLE statement takes the table name for an argument and it deletes all data in the table. The effect on the table is identical to using a DELETE statement without a WHERE clause. The difference though is a TRUNCATE TABLE statement is not logged and therefore cannot be rolled back, unlike a DELETE statement. However the TRUNCATE TABLE statement is faster if you are deleting millions of rows and can save log space. I will talk about ROLLBACK and Transaction Control Language in a future presentation.

Summary

SELECT

- UPDATE
- SELECT INTO
- DELETE
- Temp Tables
- TRUNCATE TABLE

- INSERT
 - Basic Insert
 - Using OpenRowset
 - External Data into SQL Server

This concludes the presentation on Data Manipulation Language.