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Using SOQL to Clean Up Your Salesforce Org



Pranav Nagrecha · 3 min read · Oct 1, 2024



Required SOQL Clauses

SELECT

At the foundation of any SOQL query are two clauses: the SELECT clause and the FROM clause. Think of a clause as a piece of a puzzle. It's one part of a complete query.

```
SELECT Name, Email FROM Contact
```

SELECT clause

Every SOQL query has a SELECT clause that begins with the **SELECT** keyword. The SELECT clause specifies one or more fields (separated by commas) in a Salesforce record. This example query returns two fields: **Name** and **Email**.

A note about field names: As an admin, when you talk to another admin, you probably refer to a field by its field label. But in code, developers use API names instead. So in your SOQL queries, always use field API names, not field labels. If you aren't sure what a field's API name is, don't worry, there are ways to figure it out. More on that later in this module.

FROM

The second clause that's required to create a SOQL query is the FROM clause.

```
SELECT Name, Email FROM Contact
```

FROM clause

Starting with the **FROM** keyword, the FROM clause specifies an object in your Salesforce database. In this case, we want data from the **Contact** object. Let's see what the data looks like when we run the query.

In our previous article, “[Introduction to SOQL: Navigating Salesforce Data Queries with Ease](#),” we explored the fundamentals of Salesforce Object

Query Language (SOQL) and how it can empower you to interact with your Salesforce data efficiently. Building upon that foundation, this article delves deeper into the practical applications of SOQL for Salesforce administrators and architects.



Maintaining a clean and efficient Salesforce org is crucial for optimal performance, security, and user satisfaction. Over time, unused roles, profiles, permission sets, and other components can accumulate, leading to clutter, confusion, and potential security risks. Leveraging SOQL, you can effectively identify and clean up these unused elements, ensuring your org remains streamlined and secure.

1. Identifying Unused Permission Set Groups

```
SELECT Id, Name, CreatedBy.Name, Description
FROM PermissionSetGroup
```

```
WHERE Id NOT IN (SELECT PermissionSetGroupId FROM Perm
AND Id NOT IN (SELECT ParentId FROM PermissionSetGro
```

2. Identifying Unused Permission Sets

```
SELECT Id, Name, CreatedBy.Name, Description
FROM PermissionSet
WHERE IsCustom = TRUE
AND Id NOT IN (SELECT PermissionSetId FROM Permissio
AND Id NOT IN (SELECT PermissionSetId FROM Permissio
```

3. Identifying Unused Roles

```
SELECT Id, Name, DeveloperName
FROM UserRole
WHERE Id NOT IN (SELECT UserRoleId FROM User WHERE IsA
```

4. Identifying Unused Profiles

```
SELECT Id, Name
FROM Profile
WHERE Id NOT IN (SELECT ProfileId FROM User WHERE IsAc
```

5. Identifying Roles with Only Inactive Users

```
SELECT Id, Name, DeveloperName
FROM UserRole
WHERE Id IN (
    SELECT UserRoleId
    FROM User
    WHERE IsActive = FALSE
)
AND Id NOT IN (
    SELECT UserRoleId
    FROM User
    WHERE IsActive = TRUE
)
```

6. Identifying Public Groups with No Members

```
SELECT Id, Name, DeveloperName
FROM Group
WHERE Type = 'Regular'
    AND Id NOT IN (SELECT GroupId FROM GroupMember)
```

7. Identifying Queues with No Members

```
SELECT Id, Name
FROM Group
WHERE Type = 'Queue'
    AND Id NOT IN (SELECT GroupId FROM GroupMember)
```

8. Identifying Permission Sets with 'Manage Users' Permission

```
SELECT Id, Name, Label, IsOwnedByProfile
FROM PermissionSet
WHERE PermissionsManageUsers = TRUE and IsCustom = true
```

9. Identifying Profiles with 'Manage Users' Permission

```
SELECT Id, Name
FROM Profile
WHERE PermissionsManageUsers = TRUE
```

10. Identifying Profiles and Permission sets with Excessive Administrative Permissions

```
SELECT Id, Name, Label, IsOwnedByProfile,
PermissionsModifyAllData,
PermissionsManageUsers,
PermissionsAuthorApex,
PermissionsViewAllData,
PermissionsInstallPackaging
FROM PermissionSet
WHERE IsOwnedByProfile = TRUE
AND (
PermissionsModifyAllData = TRUE OR
PermissionsManageUsers = TRUE OR
PermissionsAuthorApex = TRUE OR
PermissionsViewAllData = TRUE OR
PermissionsInstallPackaging = TRUE
)
```

11. Identifying Apex Classes with Outdated API

Versions

```
SELECT Id, Name, ApiVersion
FROM ApexClass
WHERE ApiVersion < 50.0 and NamespacePrefix = null
ORDER BY ApiVersion ASC, Name ASC
```

12. Identifying Custom Permissions Not Assigned to Any Profile or Permission Set

```
SELECT Id, DeveloperName, MasterLabel
FROM CustomPermission
WHERE Id NOT IN (
    SELECT SetupEntityId
    FROM SetupEntityAccess
    WHERE SetupEntityType = 'CustomPermission'
)
```

13. Identifying Objects That Don't Have Search Enabled

```
SELECT QualifiedApiName, Label, IsSearchable
FROM EntityDefinition
WHERE IsCustomizable = TRUE
    AND IsCustomSetting = FALSE
    AND IsSearchable = FALSE
    AND IsDeprecatedAndHidden = FALSE
ORDER BY QualifiedApiName
```

14. Identifying Unused Reports

```
SELECT Id, Name, DeveloperName, LastReferencedDate
FROM Report
WHERE LastReferencedDate = NULL
      OR LastReferencedDate < LAST_N_YEARS:2
```

15. Identifying Unused Email Templates

```
SELECT Id, Name, DeveloperName, LastUsedDate
FROM EmailTemplate
WHERE LastUsedDate = NULL
      OR LastUsedDate < LAST_N_YEARS:2
```

Maintaining a clean and efficient Salesforce org is not just about aesthetics — it's about optimizing performance, enhancing security, and ensuring user satisfaction. The SOQL queries we've explored provide powerful insights into the components of your org that may be outdated, unused, or in need of attention. By regularly running these queries, you can proactively manage roles, profiles, permission sets, and other critical elements.

Incorporating these practices into your administrative routine empowers you to make informed decisions that streamline operations and

bolster the overall health of your Salesforce environment. Remember, a well-maintained org not only benefits administrators and architects but also enhances the experience for every user who interacts with the system.

As you continue to leverage SOQL in your cleanup efforts, you'll likely discover even more opportunities to optimize and customize your org. Embrace the journey toward a more efficient Salesforce ecosystem — your organization will thank you for it.

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