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Assignment 06

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Views

**Views, Functions, and Stored Procedures**

SQL statements can become quite complex and you will want to use these statements more than once. You can save Select statements as a SQL View, Function, or Stored Procedure. This is an alternative to storing a bunch of text files that contain a SQL Script. Views, Functions, and Procedures are stored within the database file itself.

**SQL Views**

Views help create abstractions of data stored in the tables of a database. You may use Views to create reports (reporting views) that partition rows or divide columns in ways preferable to a certain use case. Another common usage is to create basic views that are used in place of the table itself. Basic views are a best practice as it gives developers a safe way to interact with database data without altering the base design in ways that may cause unforeseen issues.

**Views vs. Functions vs. Stored Procedures**

Views and Functions are named select statements that are stored in a database file. Functions differ from Views, in that parameters can be set. Functions usually return a result set table or a single (scalar) value. Stored Procedures differ from both Views and Functions because Stored Procedures are not restricted to just Select Statements.

**Conclusion**

Views, Functions, and Stored Procedures help with efficiencies and stability of a database. With these three tools one can save complicated SQL statements for repeated easy use, abstract and protect base tables, and perform lengthy procedures quickly. They are essential to any database professional.