

Sort and Limit Documents in MongoDB:

```
> mongosh
> show dbs
> use school
> db.students.find()
[
  {
    _id: ObjectId('69804ab8864a660af4628ca0'),
    name: 'spongebob',
    age: 30,
    gpa: 3.2
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca0'),
    name: 'patrick',
    age: 38,
    gpa: 1.5
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca1'),
    name: 'sandy',
    age: 27,
    gpa: 4
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca2'),
    name: 'gary',
    age: 18,
    gpa: 2.5
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('69807998aa017ce650cd8097'),
    name: 'mongo',
    age: 32,
    gpa: 3.2
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd8099'),
    name: 'Name1',
    age: 12,
    gpa: 1.2
  },
]
```

```

{
  _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd809a'),
  name: 'Name2',
  age: 22,
  gpa: 2.4
},
{
  _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd809b'),
  name: 'Name3',
  age: 42,
  gpa: 6.2
},
{
  _id: ObjectId('69808144c41c5afdf628ca4'),
  name: 'Larry',
  age: 32,
  gpa: 3.2,
  fullTime: false,
  registerDate: ISODate('2026-02-02T10:49:40.654Z'),
  graduationDate: null,
  courses: [ 'Biology', 'Chemistry', 'Calculus' ],
  address: { street: '123 Fake St.', city: 'Bik Bottom', zip: 12345 }
}
]

```

To sort these documents, some sort of order:

> db.students.find().sort({**name:1**})

Note: name: 1 <- for alphabetical order

name: -1 <- reverse alphabetical order

```

[
{
  _id: ObjectId('69808144c41c5afdf628ca4'),
  name: 'Larry',
  age: 32,
  gpa: 3.2,
  fullTime: false,
  registerDate: ISODate('2026-02-02T10:49:40.654Z'),
  graduationDate: null,
  courses: [ 'Biology', 'Chemistry', 'Calculus' ],
  address: { street: '123 Fake St.', city: 'Bik Bottom', zip: 12345 }
},
{
  _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd8099'),
  name: 'Name1',
  age: 12,
}
```

```
        gpa: 1.2
    },
{
    _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd809a'),
    name: 'Name2',
    age: 22,
    gpa: 2.4
},
{
    _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd809b'),
    name: 'Name3',
    age: 42,
    gpa: 6.2
},
{
    _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca2'),
    name: 'gary',
    age: 18,
    gpa: 2.5
},
{
    _id: ObjectId('69807998aa017ce650cd8097'),
    name: 'mongo',
    age: 32,
    gpa: 3.2
},
{
    _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca0'),
    name: 'patrick',
    age: 38,
    gpa: 1.5
},
{
    _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca1'),
    name: 'sandy',
    age: 27,
    gpa: 4
},
{
    _id: ObjectId('69804ab8864a660af4628ca0'),
    name: 'spongebob',
    age: 30,
    gpa: 3.2
}
```

```
]
> db.students.find().sort({name:-1})
[
  {
    _id: ObjectId('69804ab8864a660af4628ca0'),
    name: 'spongebob',
    age: 30,
    gpa: 3.2
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca1'),
    name: 'sandy',
    age: 27,
    gpa: 4
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca0'),
    name: 'patrick',
    age: 38,
    gpa: 1.5
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('69807998aa017ce650cd8097'),
    name: 'mongo',
    age: 32,
    gpa: 3.2
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca2'),
    name: 'gary',
    age: 18,
    gpa: 2.5
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd809b'),
    name: 'Name3',
    age: 42,
    gpa: 6.2
  },
  {
    _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd809a'),
    name: 'Name2',
    age: 22,
    gpa: 2.4
  }
]
```

```

},
{
  _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd8099'),
  name: 'Name1',
  age: 12,
  gpa: 1.2
},
{
  _id: ObjectId('69808144c41c5afdf628ca4'),
  name: 'Larry',
  age: 32,
  gpa: 3.2,
  fullTime: false,
  registerDate: ISODate('2026-02-02T10:49:40.654Z'),
  graduationDate: null,
  courses: [ 'Biology', 'Chemistry', 'Calculus' ],
  address: { street: '123 Fake St.', city: 'Bik Bottom', zip: 12345 }
}
]

```

Similarly, we can sort by gpa:

```

> db.students.find().sort({gpa:1}) <- for Ascending order
> db.students.find().sort({gpa:-1}) <- reverse order

```

To limit a Document:

To get one document:

```

> db.students.find().limit(1)
[
{
  _id: ObjectId('69804ab8864a660af4628ca0'),
  name: 'spongebob',
  age: 30,
  gpa: 3.2
}
]

```

To get three document:

```

> db.students.find().limit(3)
[
{
  _id: ObjectId('69804ab8864a660af4628ca0'),
  name: 'spongebob',
  age: 30,
  gpa: 3.2
},

```

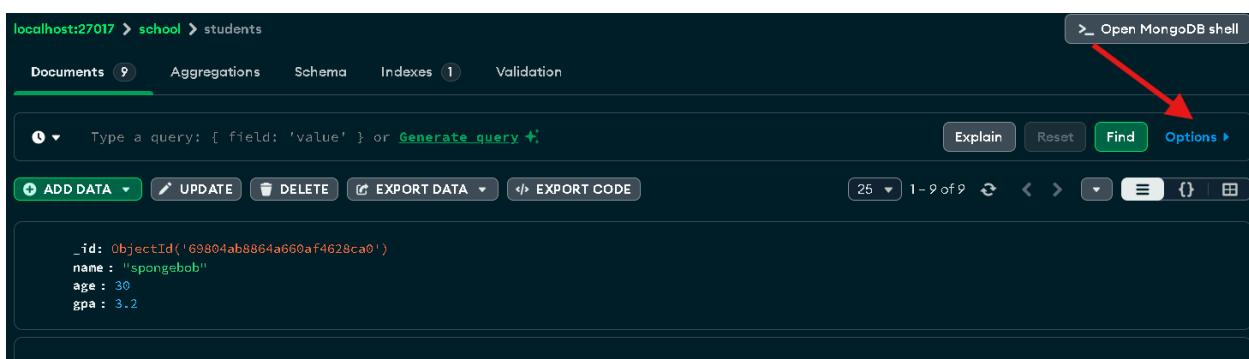
```
{
  _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca0'),
  name: 'patrick',
  age: 38,
  gpa: 1.5
},
{
  _id: ObjectId('698075a0c41c5afdf628ca1'),
  name: 'sandy',
  age: 27,
  gpa: 4
}
]
```

To get one student with highest gpa:

```
school> db.students.find().sort({gpa:-1}).limit(1)
```

```
[
  {
    _id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd809b'),
    name: 'Name3',
    age: 42,
    gpa: 6.2
  }
]
```

To Sort by MongoDB Compass:



The screenshot shows the MongoDB Compass interface for the 'students' collection. The 'Find' button, located in the top right of the query bar, is highlighted with a red arrow. The query bar contains the text: 'Type a query: { field: 'value' } or Generate query'. Below the query bar, there are buttons for 'ADD DATA', 'UPDATE', 'DELETE', 'EXPORT DATA', 'EXPORT CODE', 'Explain', 'Reset', and 'Find'. The results pane displays two documents:

```
_id: ObjectId('69804ab8864a660af4628ca0')
name : "spongebob"
age : 30
gpa : 3.2
```

{name: 1}:

Type a query: { field: 'value' } or [Generate query](#)

Project: { field: 0 }

Sort: {name:1} {name:1}

Collation: { locale: 'simple' }

Index Hint: { field: -1 } or "indexName"

Max Time MS: 60000

Introducing insights: Across Compass, you may now see icons like this to clue you in on potential areas of improvement for your data.

See insights in action

Explain | Reset | **Find**

Skip: 0 | Limit: 0

ADD DATA | UPDATE | DELETE | EXPORT DATA | EXPORT CODE | [See more](#)

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Result 1:

```
_id: ObjectId('69808144c41c5afdcf628ca4')
name : "Larry"
age : 32
gpa : 3.2
fullTime: false
registerDate: 2026-02-02T10:49:40.654+00:00
graduationDate: null
courses: Array (3)
address: Object
```

Result 2:

```
_id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd8099')
name : "Name1"
age : 12
gpa : 1.2
```

Result 3:

```
_id: ObjectId('69807a96aa017ce650cd809a')
name : "Name2"
```

To change the limit:

Explain | Reset | **Find** | Options ▾

Max Time MS: 60000

Skip: 0 | Limit: 1