



13 Useful WordPress SQL Queries You Wish You Knew Earlier

January 30, 2010 in WordPress
by OXP Editorial



WordPress is driven by a MySQL database. This is something active WordPress users would know. However, if you only just read about it here from us, here's what you should know. MySQL is a **free relational database management system** available in most web hosting services. All of the WordPress data like the posts, comments, categories, and settings are stored within the MySQL database. If you wish to read up more about MySQL, you can take a look at [WordPress's Database Schema](#).

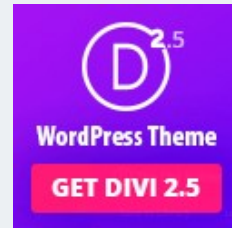


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For example, if you needed to change some information across the board in WordPress, going through each record is very time consuming and prone to human error. By simply executing a SQL query against your WordPress database, you can make the necessary changes quickly and efficiently.

Shown below are some SQL queries that can be of great assistance to you when using WordPress.

Backup your WordPress Database

Before you proceed with any changes, be sure to **backup your database**. It is a good practice to always backup your database before making any major changes. This ensures that even if anything were to go wrong, you would still be able to restore it.

You can download [WP-DB-Backup](#) or [WP-DBManager](#) plugin to backup your database through your WordPress admin panel. Alternatively, you can backup your database through phpMyAdmin manually.

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If you decide to backup your WordPress database manually, follow these steps:

1. Login to your **phpMyAdmin**.
2. Select your **WordPress database**.
3. Click on **Export** at the top of the navigation.
4. Select the tables you want to backup, or select all tables to backup the whole database.
5. Select **SQL** to export as .sql extension.
6. Check the “**Save as file**” checkbox.
7. Choose compression type, select **gzipped** to compress the database to a smaller size.
8. Finally click Go, and a download window will prompt you to save your backup database file.

13 SQL Queries for WordPress

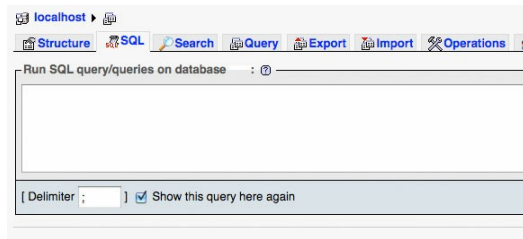
An easy way to run any of the queries below is to use phpMyAdmin.

phpMyAdmin is one of the most common database look-up and editing tool. Almost all the web hosting services' control panels provide this. There is also [WordPress SQL Executioner](#) – a WordPress plugin that allow you to execute your SQL query.

To use phpMyAdmin follow the steps below:

1. **Login to phpMyAdmin** panel and select your WordPress database.
2. Click on the SQL tab which will bring you to a page with a **SQL query box**.

Once you see the SQL query box, like the image shown below, you can run your SQL query there.



Note: All queries are direct SQL queries and will assume the standard table prefix 'wp_' for tables. If you are using a different table prefix, please modify queries accordingly.

Change Siteurl & Homeurl

WordPress stores the absolute path of the site URL and home URL in the database. Therefore, if you transfer your WordPress site from the localhost to your server, your site will not load online. This is because the absolute path URL is still pointing to your localhost. You will need to change the site URL and the home URL in order for the site to work.

Solution:

```
1 | UPDATE wp_options SET option_v
```

Change GUID

After you have migrated your blog from the localhost to your server or from another domain to a new domain, you will need to fix the URLs for the GUID field in wp_posts table. This is crucial because GUID is used to translate your post or page slug to the correct article absolute path if it is entered wrongly.

Solution:

```
1 | UPDATE wp_posts SET guid = REPLACE
```

Change URL in Content

WordPress uses absolute path in the URL link instead of a relative path in the URL link when storing them in the database. Within the content of each post record, it stores all the old URLs referencing the old source. Therefore you will need to change all these URLs to the new domain location.

Solution:

```
1 | UPDATE wp_posts SET post_content = REPLACE
```

Change Image Path Only

If you decide to use Amazon CloudFront as your Content Delivery Network (CDN) to offload the delivery of images from your server. After you have created your CNAME record, you can use the query below to change all the image paths in WordPress to load all your images from Amazon CloudFront.

Solution:

```
1 | UPDATE wp_posts SET post_content = REPLACE
```

You will also need to update the GUID for Image Attachment with the following query:

```
1 | UPDATE wp_posts SET guid = REPLACE
```

Update Post Meta

Updating Post Meta works almost the same way as updating the URL in post content. If you have stored extra URL data for each post, you can use the follow query to change all of them.

Solution:

```
1 | UPDATE wp_postmeta SET meta_va:
```

Change Default “Admin” Username

Every default WordPress installation will create an account with a default Admin username. This is wide spread knowledge, everyone who uses WordPress knows this. However, this can be a security issue because a hacker can brutal force your WordPress admin panel. If you can change your default “Admin” username, you will give your WordPress admin panel additional security.

Solution:

```
1 | UPDATE wp_users SET user_login
```

Reset Password

Ever wanted to reset your password in WordPress, but cannot seem to use the reset password section whatever the reason?

Solution:

```
1 | UPDATE wp_users SET user_pass :
```

Assign all articles by Author B to Author A

If you want to transfer the articles under Author B to merge with those under Author A, it will be very time consuming if you do it article by article. With the following SQL query, you can easily go through all the records and assign articles by Author B to go under Author A.

You will first need to obtain the author ID of both authors by going to your **Author & User** page in your WordPress admin panel. Click on the **author's name** to view their profile. At the address bar, look for "**user_id**". That is the author ID information we require.

Solution:

```
1 | UPDATE wp_posts SET post_authoi
```

Delete Revision

When you are editing an article in WordPress, there will be many revision copies being saved. This is a waste of resources because excessive revision records can increase the burden of the database. Over time, when you have thousands of entries, your database will have grown significantly. This will increase loop iterations, data retrieval and will affect the page loading time.

Solution:

```
1 | DELETE a,b,c FROM wp_posts a
2 | LEFT JOIN wp_term_relationships b ON (a.ID = b.object_id)
3 | LEFT JOIN wp_postmeta c ON (a.ID = c.post_id)
4 | WHERE a.post_type = 'revision'
```

Source from: [Lester chan](#)

Note: Bear in mind that all revisions from each post will be deleted, including all of its meta data.

Delete Post Meta

Installing or removing plugins is a very common task for WordPress. Some of the plugins make use of the post meta to store data pertaining to the plugin. After you have removed the plugin, those data are still left inside the **post_meta table**, which will no longer be needed. Run the following query to clean up the unused post meta value. This will help to speed up and reduce the size of your database.

Solution:

```
1 | DELETE FROM wp_postmeta WHERE 1=1
```

Export all Comment Emails with no Duplicate

Over a period of time, your blog will have received many comments. These comments will include the email addresses left by the commenter. You can retrieve all these emails for your mailing list without any duplicate.

Solution:

```
1 | SELECT DISTINCT comment_author
```

Once you have the result, under **Query results operations**, select export to **export** all the emails in phpMyAdmin.

Delete all Pingback

Popular articles receive plenty of pingback. When this happens, the size of your database increases. In order to reduce size of the database, you can try removing all the pingbacks.

Solution:

```
1 | DELETE FROM wp_comments WHERE (
```

Delete all Spam Comments

If you have plenty of spam comments, going through each page to delete spam can be tedious and frustrating. With the following SQL query, even if you have to face deleting 500 over spam comments, it will be a breeze.

Solution:

```
1 | DELETE FROM wp_comments WHERE (
```

- 0 = Comment Awaiting Moderation
- 1 = Approved Comment
- spam = Comment marked as Spam

Identify Unused Tags

In a WordPress database, if you run a query to delete old posts manually from MySQL, the old tags will remain and appear in your tag cloud/listing. This query allows you to identify the unused tags.

Solution:

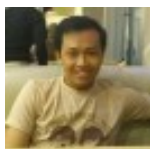
```
1 SELECT * From wp_terms wt
2 INNER JOIN wp_term_taxonomy wt
```

Start Querying!

If you need to do some maintenance and clean up or move WordPress across domains, the above SQL queries can be useful and help speed things up for you. If you have any **additional handy SQL queries for WordPress**, please share it with us below.

#mysql #tips & tricks #wp

Comments



Hidayat Sagita,

February 1, 2010

/ [Reply](#)

Thank you for sharing ;)
Maybe this code useful, grab
current week posts :

```
$paged =  
(get_query_var('paged')) ?  
get_query_var('paged') : 1;  
$thisWeek = date("W");
```

```
$newsposts =  
query_posts('cat=-44&showpost  
. $limit . '&paged=' . $paged  
.'&w='.$thisWeek);
```



DaveBowman,

February 1, 2010

/ [Reply](#)

OMG, so WordPress is that much popular nowadays that instead of "SQL queries (to manage WordPress by hand)" the article is titled "WordPress queries"? (... with phpMyAdmin in opening illustration?)

Half of the article is about plain old simple text replacement, and the other half... "Delete Revision"? Come on, you wordpressers have a brazillion of plugins for all happenstances from tweeting to sneezing and – what – no plugin to delete revisions? Surprising :)

"Identify Unused Tags" although is a very nice and useful query. Let me guess – the rest is so the post would not consist of just one snippet? Even so, thanks for the up – probably this will come in handy at some point in the future.



Wiley,

January 18, 2011

/ [Reply](#)

Dave you old cracker you!
:P Seriously though I get

what you're
saying but we
all know
you're a
'closet
wordpresser'!
I'm a blog
subscriber, u
can't fool me
you old pedal
pusher.
Bowman I
swear, you
crack me up.
LOL

Rich



Justin Germino,
October 8, 2011
[/ Reply](#)

Wp-Optimize
will delete all
post
revisions,
change out
usernames
and do many
of the
functions
manually
described
here too.



Seth Stevenson,
February 1, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

Good post. Bookmarked.



Nimit Kashyap,

February 1, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

This is a very useful post and can you please write a detailed post on how to back up wordpress database using php my admin with using photo, as it make it easy for us.



Jon Spooner,

February 2, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Wow thank you for this post.
Very very useful info.

I was wondering if you know of any magic SQL strings for helping move a WP site from a sub directory site.com/v2 to the main directory site.com/ ?

Would updating the siteurl work for this?

thanks
Jon Spooner



Terrance,

February 2, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Yes it will.



Codesquid,

February 2, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Of course with PhpMyadmin you don't even have to run queries, you can just edit the

fields directly. Sometimes this is the easiest way to do things!



Jonas, *February 2, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

Very good tutorial :) Can I translate it into French for my blog (xoodo.com) ?



Terrance,
February 2, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Sure.. a link back to this article will be great ;)



masayuki,
February 3, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

hi!

By which version can use it?
2.8? or 2.9?



Marcos, *February 3, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

Hi, my name is Marcos, I'm from Mexico and I wonder if I can use part of this blog to post it into my blog. My blog is focused in design and programming and I 'd like to post some of the code, of course, I 'd put the link to the original article

:)



Terrance,
February 3, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Sure. :)



paul, *February 3, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

this one is fun too
MYSQL="mysql -h HOST -u
USERNAME -pPASSWORD -D
DB_NAME"
\$MYSQL -BNe "show tables" |
awk '{print "set
foreign_key_checks=0; drop tabl
`" \$1 "`;" }' | \$MYSQL
unset MYSQL



Elizaibeth,
December 7, 2011

[/ Reply](#)

IDIOT I JUST
LOST ALL MY
TABLES
ARGHGHGH
UUUUUUUUUUUU



ds,
January 22, 2012
[/ Reply](#)

DONT DO
THIS ... This
deletes all
tables



paul, *February 3, 2010*
[/ Reply](#)

just kidding of course, it will
delete all tables!



Elizaibeth,
December 7, 2011
[/ Reply](#)

me too! :D



inwebdeveloper,
February 3, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

Good post. twitted



SMiGL, *February 3, 2010*
[/ Reply](#)

Nice collection tips. Thanks



msjulicious,
February 4, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

RT'd. Great tips. Thank you so
much!



eveevans,
February 4, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

Excelent,
really great collection



Tony M, February 6, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

Interesting collection of queries, thank you. One thing as I am reading your content, if you could add some padding-left because the content goes all the way to the edge of my screen.

Just a heads up.



Terrance,
February 6, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

Thank you for
the feedback.



peterfaris,
February 6, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

A question from an ordinary user – that is, I am not a programmer.

When I download my backup and unzip it, I have a sql file which I can read as text using TextPad.

Is there some way to read the contents as a GUI interface? In other words, can I recreate the blog and its functionality on my desktop?

Also is there some way that I can get a simple list of the post headers?

Any comments would be much appreciated ... but please keep them very simple.

Thanks in advance

Peter



Terrance,

*February 6,
2010*

/ [Reply](#)

First you'll need to install MySQL on your local computer.

Next, import the sql file you downloaded into your localhost through phpMyAdmin.

To get the post headers, run this query:

```
SELECT  
post_title  
FROM  
wp_posts  
WHERE  
post_type =  
'post';
```



Dave Bowr

February 6, 2016

[1 Reply](#)

"can I
recreate the
blog and its
functionality
on my
desktop?"
Yes, Peter,
you could do
that by
installing
software that
emulates
web-server
on your
computer.
There are
several
popular
software
packages that
do that:
WAMP,
XAMPP and
others. Here's
the link to a
really nice and
detailed
tutorial on
how to install
WordPress
locally:
<http://sixrevisions.com/development-tutorials/using-xampp-for-local-wordpress-theme-development/>

You could
then import

your SQL-file
from a live
server into
local MySQL
using
PHPMyAdmin.

Also note,
that you will
have to
change the
siteurl of your
site from
"something.com"
to "localhost".

Here's a
tutorial to do
the opposite
(from
localhost to
something.com
<http://jestro.cc>
local-
wordpress-
xampp-
installation-
into-live-site/
but it is easy
to figure out
how to do it
the other way.

Of course, if
you have a
custom
theme and
images on
your live
server you will
have to just
copy the
whole folder
with
WordPress
and put it in
your htdocs

folder in the
first place.

Alas, couldn't
keep the
comments
very simple,
but it's just
because the
matter itself
isn't :)



wroamer,
February 8, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

Very useful post for me.
Thanks!



Yoenes,
February 10, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

Thanks alot for sharing, if been
looking for a summary like this
for ages.

Again thanks for sharing



Ben, *February 11, 2010*
[/ Reply](#)

Some really useful queries,
especially for a wordpress and
phpMyAdmin n00b such as
myself.

Thank you, keep up the good
work :)



C. Jara, *February 17, 2010*

/ [Reply](#)

Great, this help me a lot for changing my subdomain. Really useful, thanks!!!

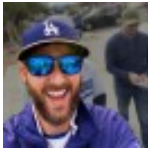
PD: Can I translate some parts of your post into my blog? I will put the link to your article :)



Tony, *February 19, 2010*

/ [Reply](#)

Thanks for sharing! Found the content to be very useful! :)



The Frosty,
March 4, 2010

/ [Reply](#)

How can I query any user, and change them from a contributor to an administrator..



Jim, *March 8, 2010* */ [Reply](#)*

"WordPress SQL queries"? Ehm, no, simply SQL queries to run in MySQL.

And no, WordPress is not "driven" by MySQL. WordPress stores data in MySQL databases. WordPress could be said to be "driven", or preferably, run with PHP.

I do think this matters.. Otherwise, thanks for the useful snippets.



sushilshirbhate,

March 9, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Thanks for sharing! Found the content to be very useful



ben, *March 11, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

I found an issue with your queries, the post meta change will break if your old url and new url are not the same character length. as it is a serialized array if you change the length you have to change the number specified for the string as well



DCP Web Designers,

March 12, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Thanks for this info, I am working on a new wordpress blog and these SQL Queries are proving to be very useful, thanks again :)



3rbsc.com,

March 31, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

good topic



ruzaqir, *April 1, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

thx. for sharing all this information is very usefull for me that just learning to blog using wordpress.



ukm, April 7, 2010 / [Reply](#)

thank you
really worth post, I need some
of queries..



salman khan,
April 28, 2010
/ [Reply](#)

Identify Unused Tags

In a WordPress database, if you run a query to delete old posts manually from MySQL, the old tags will remain and appear in your tag cloud/listing. This query allows you to identify the unused tags.

Solution:

```
SELECT * From wp_terms wt
INNER JOIN wp_term_taxonomy
wt ON wt.term_id=wt.term_id
WHERE wt.taxonomy='post_tag'
AND wt.coun
```

How to Delete them ?



Taha Khan, May 9, 2010
/ [Reply](#)

As it is a serialized array if you change the length you have to change the number specified for the string as well



hamid, May 12, 2010
/ [Reply](#)

WoOoOoOoW
nice share ,
plz put more sql for wordpress
really amazing post
thanks



37dc.net, May 21, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

good topic
thx



Suneel, June 8, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Never thought about changing
the default 'admin' name :) Nice
one. Will use it. Thanks for
sharing.

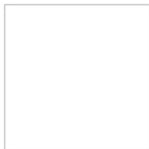


Sam,
September
6, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Suneel,
with
wordpress 3
this is not
more
necessary as
you can
choose your
"admin"
username
when
installing –
however with
previous
version 2.9
and less
"admin" was
set and that
was a big

security leak.
So changing
this to
something
different is
recommended
anyway – my
wordpress
got hacked
almost
certainly
becasue of
that – but
then again –
the sites
were on MT
and they have
troubles
anyway lately
with hacks
and stuff.
Anyone else
here unhappy
with MT?



Raul, *June 14, 2010* / [Reply](#)

Very nice and useful queries...

Do you know the query to mass
import taxonomies to db?
Adding a few hundred
taxonomies one by one will kill
me...

Maybe with php&mysql I can do
this.



Jennifer R, *June 17, 2010*
/ [Reply](#)

Nice collection, some of them
I've know but the other are new
for me, thank for that



Michael Mior,

July 1, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Just a quick note that the query for replacing image URLs will also change the URLs for any JavaScript which might be embedded in the post.

Probably not that common a scenario, but maybe worth noting. Nice post!



usaha bisnis,

July 26, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Thanks for sharing. It is very useful for me,,,, i need some revisions of my site so your article is very useful for me.



FourPx Articles,

August 3, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

Hi,

We have followed the optimization procedure and our website is getting loaded very quickly...Thanks for your valuable post.

Regards,
FourPx Articles



Nikunj, *August 19, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

Thanks Terrance, You just saved my day was moving my

wordpress file from localhost to a server and found that all my url was messed up was searching for solution and this post came to my rescue at the right time.

Thanks Mate :)



Mike Schinkel,
August 30, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

As a hardcore SQL coder this post scares me. Some of the queries you are showing will break the database if you have certain plugins installed that expect to be notified when data is updated. Sure SQL is powerful and I use it all the time but I also know how to fix any problems my wayward queries may create. Most people who would not know how to do the things you explain already are not in that category.

To readers of the post, Caveat Emptor! Make **damn sure** you backup your database before you try any of this; don't skip that step as so many of us are inclined to do...



Büyü, *September 1, 2010*
[/ Reply](#)

As a hardcore SQL coder this post scares me. Some of the queries you are showing will break the database if you have certain plugins installed that

expect to be notified when data is updated. Sure SQL is powerful and I use it all the time but I also know how to fix any problems my wayward queries may create. Most people who would not know how to do the things you explain already are not in that category.

To readers of the post, Caveat Emptor! Make **damn sure** you backup your database before you try any of this; don't skip that step as so many of us are inclined to do...



Sam, *September 6, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

Saved me already so much time – copy/paste – **bang** – done. Obviously need to be careful and go over manually under wp_options as certain bits need manual tweekings but overall great collection.



Lana, *September 16, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

I ran across this post in search of code to help me accomplish something in my wp database.

1. This post is a tremendous help to us php and mysql puppies, thank you so much.

2. Could you possibly help me with my db issue as it is a similar concept? In my





wordpress mysql database, in the postmeta table, I have a meta_key that I would like to edit the value of and since there are multiple entries for this specific meta_key with this same value, I thought perhaps a sql query would be great instead of going thru all the many many pages to find and edit each individual one.

e.g.

mysql db name: db_name

mysql db meta_key: meta_key

(of course)

mysql db meta_key present

value: _mk_value

Now lets say that I want to change _mk_value to mk_value. I am clueless as to how to write this query, or command if you will??? Your help would be really appreciated.



Terrance,
September
16, 2010
/ Reply

Hi Lana,

Here is the
sql query:

```
UPDATE
db_name SET
meta_value =
'mk_value'
WHERE
meta_key =
'meta_key';
```

Remember to
backup your
database
before
running this
query.

Hope this
help.



Lana, *September 16, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

Thanks so much for taking the
time to help me out Terrance. I
knew there had to be an easier
way to do that.



PB, *September 23, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

Awesome post – tremendously
helpful!

One question – is there a way
to remove duplicate pages from
a WP blog through an SQL
query?

Thanks!



axfa, *September 24, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

thanks for this collection
nice



jarno, *September 24, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

Thanks for useful post....

My blog have an error like this :

```
SELECT t.*, tt.* FROM
wp_terms AS t INNER JOIN
wp_term_taxonomy AS tt ON
tt.term_id = t.term_id INNER
JOIN wp_term_relationships AS
tr ON tr.term_taxonomy_id =
tt.term_taxonomy_id WHERE
tt.taxonomy IN ('category') AND
tr.object_id IN (3891) ORDER
BY t.name ASC
```

What should I do ? Pls help

thanks before



Mammut Medien,

October 4, 2010

[/ Reply](#)

This is a nice list of SQL queries
and some of them I really
wished to know earlier ;-)
Thanks.



نیاز مندیہا, *October 15, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

thanks for teaching
great post



سرگرمی, *October 20, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

Good post. twitted



جدید, *October 30, 2010*

[/ Reply](#)

This is a nice list of SQL queries

and some of them I really wished to know earlier ;-)
Thanks.



margo utomo,
December 13, 2010
[/ Reply](#)

Nice list of SQL queries. Thanks for sharing



t31os, *December 22, 2010*
[/ Reply](#)

Ditto what Mike said and there should be some clear warning preceeding this post to ensure users backup their data first, alot of these queries can be harmful, and ideally posts or terms in a taxonomy should be removed via the WordPress administration..

Why? .. Because WordPress will correctly remove all the relational data and update all the appropriate counts that the MySQL queries won't necessarily do.

Also be sure you're not running replace queries on serialized data, simply put, it can and possibly will break your site, as has already been highlighted in a couple of the above comments.



DG, *December 30, 2010*
[/ Reply](#)

Read something similar, didn't

go into as much detail tho.
Thanks for the post.



mediafire movie,
January 9, 2011
[/ Reply](#)

how to delete post below 50
characters from phpmyadmin



Micheal, *January 10, 2011*
[/ Reply](#)

alot of these queries can be
harmful, and ideally posts or
terms in a taxonomy should be
removed via the WordPress
administration..



گالری عکس,
January 11, 2011
[/ Reply](#)

nice post : thanks : i
bookmarked this



Smooth Booth Tees,
January 14, 2011
[/ Reply](#)

Good article. Backing up my
wordpress database is
something I wish I had done
earlier, would have saved me
alot of time late last year!



jam, *January 25, 2011*
[/ Reply](#)

just thanks ! i am copying it ! ok
? thanks again



Margaret,
January 28, 2011
[/ Reply](#)

I cannot get this to work:
SELECT * From wp_terms wt
INNER JOIN wp_term_taxonomy
wt ON wt.term_id=wt.term_id
WHERE
wt.taxonomy='post_tag' AND
wt.count=0;

I get this error:
Error in query: Syntax error
near 'post_tag' AND
wt.count=0' at line 2

I am not a techie person but I
am desperate to delete unused
tags



**Michael
Mior,**
*January 28,
2011*
[/ Reply](#)

How are you
executing the
query? It
seems like
you've
escaped the
quotes
around
post_tag too
many times.
The query
should be

```
SELECT *  
From  
wp_terms wt  
INNER JOIN  
wp_term_taxor
```

wtt ON
wt.term_id=wtl
WHERE
wtt.taxonomy=
AND
wtt.count=0;



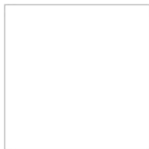
mark, *February 13, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

A very good post!!!!
Could you tell me how to query
users to list all users with the
ADMIN rights?

Thanks,

Mark



chemmyone,
February 20, 2011

[/ Reply](#)

Hey all..;)

I have a WP install with 14k
post categories.. I'm crap with
mysql and was wondering if
anyone had a query to delete
all categories with say less than
3 posts in it.. or for all
categories named " .. for
example.. thanks in advance..;)

chemmy.



hadi zafa,
February 26, 2011

[/ Reply](#)

I'm interested in this article. For
me it was learning to develop
my blog. Thank you.



Tan_thowie,
March 25, 2011
[/ Reply](#)

thanx.. very useful for newbie
like me..



Ryan, *April 5, 2011* / [Reply](#)

Great Post, Bookmarked as
"Bible".



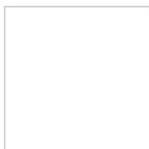
**Top Documentary
Films,**
May 22, 2011
[/ Reply](#)

Nice post! I just tried some of
the queries...but they dont
seem to work on wordpress
3.1+ ?!



Messi, *May 30, 2011*
[/ Reply](#)

Good Jobs!



sheryl, *June 5, 2011* / [Reply](#)

How could I pull all wordpress
database entries/changes from
a certain date range from a
compressed database backup
file
into a similar, live, wordpress
database?

To explain: my webhost
somehow started directing
traffic from my friends blog
onto a server that had an old

version of the wordpress blog (from an account that had been closed). This old website connected to the old database. (The newer blog resides in a different account on a different server.)

User posts and account information were written to that old database.

I need to move that information back to the correct, live, website and database..

Any Help??!!



Michael Mior,
June 5, 2011
/ Reply

You would have to first import the backup into a separate database, then you can use INSERT INTO...SELECT as described in the MySQL manual (<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.0/en/insert-into-select.html>). Just add the date range into your SELECT clause to grab the particular posts and then INSERT into the new database.



Xaviju, *June 9, 2011* / [Reply](#)

What about this?

Change URL from links:

```
UPDATE wp_links SET link_url=
REPLACE (link_url,
'http://oldsiteurl.com',
'http://www.newsiteurl.com');
```

Change image from links:

```
UPDATE wp_links SET
link_image = REPLACE
(link_image,
'http://oldsiteurl.com',
'http://www.newsiteurl.com');
```



steff, *July 12, 2011* / [Reply](#)

great post. any idea how i can import a database larger than 50mb? i get errors when i try to do this operation. something about extended inserts! any ideas? thanks in advance



Max,
July 15, 2011
/ [Reply](#)

Steff,

It would be easiest if you could re-do the dump with skip-extended-inserts option see <http://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql/en/skip-extended-inserts.html>

Failing that

you would
likely have to
use the mysql
command line
client tool to
import the
data after
setting some
configuration
settings (likely
max packet)
or split up the
data yourself
(which will not
be really nice)

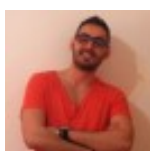
You may want
to think about
hiring
someone with
MySQL
administration
experience to
help with this.



Matt, *August 9, 2011*

/ [Reply](#)

I tried to delete my revision
history using the code above
but it seems that some
informations about my links has
been removed. Some links had
been assigned categories but
some links lost that
relationship.



Sorin Chiriac,
August 11, 2011

/ [Reply](#)

hey,
i have one question.
how i can export posts from a
blog but only attribute one of

author not all post?

thank you



peluang usaha,

August 11, 2011

[/ Reply](#)

Thanks, usually im using
DELETE FROM wp_comments
WHERE comment_approved =
'spam'; to Delete all Spam
Comments. It more simple than
one by one from dashboard gui
.



Layanan Seo,

August 20, 2011

[/ Reply](#)

I'm interested in this article. For
me it was learning to develop
my blog. Thank you.



Zgraph,

September 2, 2011

[/ Reply](#)

I liked this blog post. Keeping
me entertained...



**Daytona Beach
Lawyer,**

September 3, 2011

[/ Reply](#)

Nice post bud. No wonder this
is one of the most popular
ones going on!



David, *September 3, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

Why can't you search the entire
database, and replace

"http://localhost/oldsite" with
"http://www.newsite.com"
wherever it appears?

I guess I haven't tested in
enough circumstanced, but I
believe I've seen plugins do
that as well. To do the same
thing, since I'm
exporting/importing the file
anyway, while it's on my
computer, I open it a text
editor and do the find and
replace.

Anyway, just my thought. Of
course site url and home url
are often different, depending
on install folder but that's done
after the fact.



r4i, *September 6, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

This is a great one..nice article,
thanks for share with us... I
learn a lot with your words..
thank for the post.



Büyü, *September 17, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

Very useful article for coders!
Thank you so much for share
with us.

Best Regards,



dipecat, *October 10, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

Next, import the sql file you

downloaded into your localhost through phpMyAdmin.



Scott, *October 30, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

Big help thanks for this...



mike, *November 1, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

It was really helpful for me.
Here working further i stuck at
a point hope you could help.

I want to delete couple of
comment that include some
specific words like say "buy" out
of a big number those are
waiting for approval.

I dont want to go to each and
every comment to see what
shit a spammer left on my
blog. I need a straight way by
just putting a query and all
useless comment could be
deleted.



mhk, *November 3, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

Excelent post
thanks



mike, *November 10, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

hey buddy.. you approved my
comment but didn't pay
attention to what am I asking.

No response...



Alan, *November 19, 2011*

[/ Reply](#)

I have used your queries before many times but only when moving wordpress sites/databases around on external hosting not to my Ubuntu server which is what I want to do now. Normally goes well – just create a new site and database – import the old sql file to create the tables and then run the queries – in this case primarily changing `http://www.myoldhostname.co.u` to `http://localhost`.

In the past when I have run the site for the first time with the new structure it goes straight in but this time I am being given the WordPress Welcome screen. Any thoughts. wp-config is correct because I delete all the newly created tables before importing the old sql file.



Michael Otton,
December 14, 2011

[/ Reply](#)

Finally some really useful info.
Thankyou very much



Samuel,
December 16, 2011

[/ Reply](#)

Hello All.
Came across the site from google and though it has a lot of queries, I still can't find the one I'm looking for and I'm

hoping someone might help.
What I'm trying to do, is delete
a user and all posts related to
that user. I ran "DELETE FROM
`impactra_wrdpn`.`wp_users`
WHERE `wp_users`.`ID` =
theuserid" though user got
deleted, the posts were still on
the site. I know I could do it
from admin backend but my
allocation is not allowing me
and these are all spam posts :(
Please advice and Thanks in
advance
Samuel



Mayur, *January 3, 2012*

[/ Reply](#)

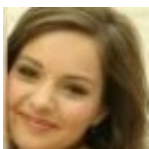
an awesome query list !!
Thanks a lot :)



Austin Coulson,
January 27, 2012

[/ Reply](#)

Several of these queries are
awesome for post host transfer
updates. I know you change the
URL via admin before moving it
etc, but these are nice too!
Thanks!



**Katie @ Women's
Magazine**,
February 1, 2012

[/ Reply](#)

Do you know a query to reset
WP data to it's original form,
this includes removing all
dummy content and
postmetas?



J Jasmine,
February 6, 2012
[/ Reply](#)

Thank you!

Very useful post.

Although I couldn't get this query to work

```
SELECT * From wp_terms wt
INNER JOIN wp_term_taxonomy
wt ON wt.term_id=wt.term_id
WHERE wt.taxonomy='post_tag'
AND wt.count=0;
```

MySQL returns nothing (it should)



Jeremiah Reagan,
February 26, 2012
[/ Reply](#)

What a FANTASTIC list! I just started trying to learn more SQL/PHP just so I could fix many of the problems that you described here. I really wish I would of found this page a few months ago when I ran into the "image/url" extension problem – If I would of seen this post, would of saved me 6-8 hours, ROFL!!! Thanks again for sharing this list.



Jeremy, March 8, 2012
[/ Reply](#)

I always come back to this damned list. :)

Thanks



Facility maintenance services,

March 12, 2012

/ [Reply](#)

I then discovered the Page Speed plugin and started using it when trialling new themes. I joined Elegant Themes and drooled over their designs, but couldn't find a single theme. I really like the post thanks you are sharing a good post



Daniel, *March 18, 2012*

/ [Reply](#)

How do you get all post from user A and change their status from whatever to pending?



Mah, *April 7, 2012* / [Reply](#)

I just started trying to learn more SQL/PHP just so I could fix many of the problems that you described here. I really wish I would of found this page a few months ago when I ran into the "image/url" extension problem



Ron, *April 21, 2012* / [Reply](#)

My client has been using a custom field "publication_date" for posts that are actually news articles. Now he wants to copy this publication_date to the posting date in about 100 posts/articles. Any SQL query

for this?

And, a plug for "Search and Replace" plugin. Awesome tool!



sara, April 21, 2012 / [Reply](#)

Good post. Bookmarked.
I Love onextrapixel



Chris, April 26, 2012 / [Reply](#)

I need your guidance on providing the query strings for the following :

1. I wanted to delete older posts from 2008 to 2010 in the database as it's bloated to over 400mb and a problem when backing up and importing into database. Deleting these would lighten this table and the dump as a whole.

2. What is the query string to do the above?

3. What's the query string to delete any relevant traces related to all the deleted posts thereafter such as comments of the deleted posts, unused tags?

Your kind assistance with your answers to the above, would be much appreciated.

Thank you in advance and best wishes.



GKDREAMZ,

May 29, 2012

/ [Reply](#)

really useful..thanks for
sharing..all the best



Jon, *May 30, 2012* / *[Reply](#)*

I can see how this would be
useful for WordPress database
neophytes but it's also the kind
of thing I dread my clients who
I've mentioned WordPress to
discovering. I await the first
request for access to
phpMyAdmin with dread!



Staid, *July 2, 2012* / *[Reply](#)*

I have some duplicated plugins
after importing my old
database. Can I delete the
duplicated plugins with SQL?
Thanks

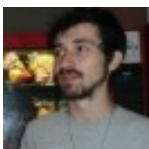


Tarsem Singh,

July 4, 2012

/ [Reply](#)

Thanks for sharing..all the best..
need some DB query to
Change Permalink of WPSC
powered website.



Lucas Serafim,

July 20, 2012

/ [Reply](#)

I made a quick snippet to
change url:

//no secret, just put your old url

```
and new
set @oldurl = 'http://oldwp-
url.com', @newurl =
'http://newwp-url.com';
```

```
UPDATE wp_options SET
option_value =
replace(option_value, @oldurl,
@newurl) WHERE option_name
= 'home' OR option_name =
'siteurl';
UPDATE wp_posts SET guid =
REPLACE (guid, @oldurl,
@newurl);
UPDATE wp_posts SET
post_content = REPLACE
(post_content, @oldurl,
@newurl);
UPDATE wp_posts SET
post_content = REPLACE
(post_content, CONCAT('src=',
@oldurl), CONCAT('src=',
@newurl));
UPDATE wp_posts SET guid =
REPLACE (guid, @oldurl,
@newurl) WHERE post_type =
'attachment';
UPDATE wp_postmeta SET
meta_value = REPLACE
(meta_value, @oldurl, @newurl);
```



Sheri, July 31, 2012 / [Reply](#)

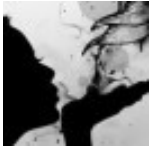
how about restoring the
database (sql) uploaded on FTP,
then using an SQL query?

```
am i using the right command?
mysql -u YOURUSERNAME -p
YOURPASSWORD <
PATHTOSQL.sql
```

however, i'm getting this error:
#1064 – You have an error in

your SQL syntax; check the manual that corresponds to your MySQL server version for the right syntax to use near blahblahblah.... at line 1

please help!



Tom, *September 9, 2012*

[/ Reply](#)

Great post, really handy. Thank you for sharing.



Haqianzhu, *September 20, 2012*

[/ Reply](#)

Good!!Thank you for sharing.



Eoin, *November 9, 2012*

[/ Reply](#)

Yea, but is there any plugins that just allow you to update a table, I know of Table Reloaded but it isnt saved in a editable sort-of-way table, more like in one row. SQL is great for some of these changes I just dont get the URL change ones surely you can export FIND>REPLACE the IMPORT.



Sajjad Ali, *January 23, 2013*

[/ Reply](#)

The look so great i think these can really help out in future as well...!! but there might be many new things you can do now in WP SQL queries



John (Jean C),

April 14, 2013

[/ Reply](#)

Am a newbie at web design and have an interesting problem. It's a long story but in a nutshell, have transferred a site from a local host to a shared host and failed to notice that my transfer tools had some exclusions. I ended up with a site which does not have any tables for comments or commentmeta.

Is there any way to add the missing tables without overwriting the entire database?

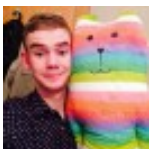


Arup Ghosh,

May 13, 2013

[/ Reply](#)

This is all that a WordPress user needs while moving his blog.



markey707, *July 1, 2013*

[/ Reply](#)

Have you got a query to select all posts that have a specific text string then to add a custom field to all those posts?



Rrezart Bozo,

September 14, 2013

[/ Reply](#)

which SQL query shows only categories in WordPress?

which sql query shows post in
one category?
thank you!

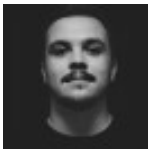


Ayesha,
*September
17, 2013*
[/ Reply](#)

Check this
website for
your answer:

<http://codex.w>

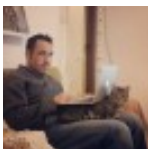
Ayesha



Tusko Trush,
September 15, 2013
[/ Reply](#)

```
SELECT DISTINCT  
comment_author_IP FROM  
wp_comments WHERE  
comment_approved="spam";
```

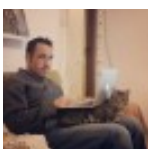
Get all spam IPs



netyou, *October 9, 2013*
[/ Reply](#)

This has been the best article I
have found for these issues by
far.

How about making a cheat
sheet?



netyou,
November 26, 2013
[/ Reply](#)

This is one of the most useful

articles I have ever used!

If any ones interested I wrote a small util for renaming urls based on your queries. It gets an old url and a new url and prints out the relevant queries for a rename.

<http://hitautodestruct.github.io/db-migrate/>



dskanth, *January 29, 2014*

[/ Reply](#)

Thanks for providing this useful information. Now my blog is more optimized.



Brian, *July 22, 2014* / [Reply](#)

//Here's my favorite, TURN ON ALL COMMENTS ON EVERY POST //

```
UPDATE wp_posts SET
comment_status='open' WHERE
post_status = 'publish' AND
post_type = 'post';
```



Anita Anderson,
June 24, 2015

[/ Reply](#)

Just want to say thank you for this article. It has helped me countless times.



Lukman Arif Sanjani,
November 16, 2015

[/ Reply](#)

wow man... many thanks... (y)



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