SQL Syntax Summary from Documents

Systematic Organization

October 10, 2025

SQL Syntax Summary

I. Data Definition Language (DDL)

DDL commands are used for defining, modifying, and dropping database objects like schemas and tables[cite: 265, 267, 452, 463].

Command		Purpose	Basic Structure/Keywords	Ref.
CREATE SCHEMA		Creates a new	CREATE SCHEMA <schema_name> [cite: 272]</schema_name>	p. 4
		schema[cite: 272].	CDEATE TABLE (table name) ((aslumn name) (عـــــ
CREATE	1A-	Creates a new ta-		
BLE		ble[cite: 327].) [cite: 328]	9-13
DROP		Removes a schema	DROP SCHEMA <schema_name>[CASCADE </schema_name>	p.
SCHEMA		and all objects	RESTRICT] [cite: 455, 458]	19
		in it (with		
		CASCADE)[cite:		
		456].		
DROP	TA-	Removes a table	DROP TABLE <table_name>[CASCADE </table_name>	p.
BLE		and all objects re-	RESTRICT] [cite: 455, 459]	19
		ferring to it (with		
		CASCADE)[cite:		
		457].		
ALTER	TA-	,	ALTER TABLE <table_name><action> (e.g.,</action></table_name>	p.
BLE		attributes or	ADD, DROP, ALTER, DROP CONSTRAINTS, ADD	20-
			FOREIGN KEY) [cite: 467, 468, 479]	21
			1016LIGN NEI) [CIGE. 401, 400, 413]	41
		table[cite: 463,		
		466].		

II. Data Types and Constraints

Concept	Purpose	Keywords/Examples	Ref.
Data Types	Specifies the type of data a column can hold[cite: 314].	Numeric: INT, DECIMAL(n, m). Character-string: CHAR(n), VARCHAR(n). Date/Time: DATE, TIME, TIMESTAMP[cite: 316, 318, 320].	p. 8
NOT NULL	Ensures a column cannot have a NULL value[cite: 329].	monthly_salary INT NOT NULL [cite: 328]	p. 9
PRIMARY	Specifies the column(s)	PRIMARY KEY(id) or PRIMARY KEY	p. 9,
KEY	that uniquely identify each row[cite: 329].	(col1, col2) [cite: 328, 355]	11
UNIQUE	in a column are dis-	UNIQUE (addr_str) [cite: 335]	р. 10
DEFAULT	tinct[cite: 336]. Specifies a default value for a column[cite: 405].	store_id INT NOT NULL DEFAULT 1 [cite: 406]	p. 14
FOREIGN KEY	Defines a column(s)	FOREIGN KEY(mgr_id) REFERENCES	p.
	that references the primary key of another table[cite: 337].	EMPLOYEE(id) [cite: 335]	10
Referential Trig-	Defines actions when	ON DELETE SET NULL, ON DELETE SET	p.
gers	a referred entity is	DEFAULT, ON DELETE CASCADE, ON UPDATE	15-
	deleted or updated[cite: 404].	CASCADE[cite: 411, 430, 438, 445].	18

III. Data Manipulation Language (DML) - Retrieval Queries

Basic Select Statement Components

Component	Purpose	Keywords/Syntax	Ref.
SELECT	Specifies the columns to	SELECT id, birthday, SELECT * (all at-	p.
	be retrieved[cite: 504].	tributes) [cite: 517, 536]	23,
			24,
			26
FROM	Specifies the tables in-	FROM EMPLOYEE [cite: 518]	p.
	volved in the query[cite:		23
	505].		
WHERE	Filters the rows based	WHERE name = 'Po-Lin Chen' [cite: 519]	p.
	on a condition[cite:		23,
	506].		24
\mathbf{AS}	Provides an alias for	SELECT s.id AS store_num, FROM	p.
	a table or column[cite:	EMPLOYEE AS e [cite: 688, 689]	38
	687].		
DISTINCT	Eliminates duplicate	SELECT DISTINCT monthly_salary FROM	p.
	tuples in the query	EMPLOYEE [cite: 611]	32
	outcome[cite: 608].		
DISTINCT	Drops duplicates based	SELECT DISTINCT ON (store_id)	p.
\mathbf{ON}	on chosen columns[cite:	store_id, name, monthly_salary	81,
	1214].	[cite: 1225, 1226]	82
ORDER BY	Sorts the final re-	ORDER BY <attribute>[ASC DESC]</attribute>	p.
	sult[cite: 787].	[cite: 788]	48
LIMIT	Restricts the number	LIMIT 3 [cite: 1183]	p.
	of rows returned[cite:		78
	1175].		
OFFSET	Indicates how many	OFFSET 1 [cite: 1184]	p.
	rows to ignore from the		78
	beginning[cite: 1176].		

Filtering Conditions

Condition Type	Operators/K	leywords	Examples		Ref.
Comparison	=, >, <, <>,	! =.	WHERE monthly_salary > 80000	[cite:	p.
			976, 977]		24
NULL check	IS NULL,	IS NOT	WHERE supervisor_id IS NULL	[cite:	p.
	NULL[cite: 553,	559].	557]		27

Condition Type	Operators/Keywords	Examples	Ref.
String Matching	LIKE with wildcards (%:	WHERE name LIKE 'Chi%' [cite: 571],	p.
	any string, _: any sin-	WHERE id LIKE 'A' [cite: 580]	28,
	gle character)[cite: 565,		29
	566, 567].		
Range	BETWEEN <value1></value1>	WHERE birthday BETWEEN '1995-01-01'	p.
	AND <value2> (inclu-</value2>	AND '1999-12-31' [cite: 935]	61
	sive)[cite: 935].		
Set Membership	IN, NOT IN[cite: 653].	WHERE store_id IN (1, 2) $[cite: 658]$	p.
			35

Joins

Join Type	е	Purpose	Keywords/Syntax	Ref.
Traditiona	al	Implicitly joins tables	FROM EMPLOYEE, STORE WHERE	p.
Join		in FROM, filtered by	<pre>EMPLOYEE.store_id = STORE.id [cite:</pre>	36,
		WHERE for joining crite-	680, 681]	37
		rion[cite: 667, 676].		
Inner Join	n	Returns only rows that	JOIN <table2> ON <condition> [cite:</condition></table2>	p.
		satisfy the join condi-	705]	40
		tion[cite: 738].		
Cross Join	n	Computes the Carte-	CROSS JOIN <table2> [cite: 731]</table2>	p.
		sian product of the ta-		42
		bles[cite: 728].		
Left (Outer	Returns all rows from	LEFT OUTER JOIN <table2> ON</table2>	p.
Join		the left table[cite: 741].	<pre><condition> [cite: 741]</condition></pre>	43
Right (Outer	Returns all rows from	RIGHT JOIN <table2> ON <condition></condition></table2>	p.
Join		the right table[cite:	[cite: 743, 762]	43,
		743].		45
Full (Outer	Returns rows matched	FULL OUTER JOIN <table2> ON</table2>	p.
Join		in either table (applies	<pre><condition> [cite: 745]</condition></pre>	43
		rule to both sides)[cite:		
		745].		

Join Type	Purpose	Keywords/Syntax	Ref.
USING	Used when join attribute names are the same[cite: 718].	JOIN STORE_PHONE AS sp USING (store_id) [cite: 722]	p. 41

Aggregation and Grouping

Concept	Purpose	Keywords/Functions	Ref.
Aggregate Func-	Calculates a single value	COUNT, SUM, MAX, MIN, AVG [cite: 798]	p.
tions	over a set of rows[cite: 798].		49
GROUP BY	Groups rows by a common	GROUP BY store_id [cite: 810]	p.
	value for aggregation[cite:		50
	807].		
HAVING	Filters the results of a GROUP	HAVING COUNT(e.*) > 2 [cite: 821]	p.
	BY clause based on an aggre-		51
	gate condition[cite: 816].		
FILTER	Applies an aggregate func-	SUM(monthly_salary) FILTER	p. 6
	tion only to the rows within	(WHERE gender = 'W') [cite: 72]	
	a group that satisfy a condi-		
	tion[cite: 11].		

Nested Queries (Subqueries)

Concept	Purpose	Keywords/Operators	Ref.
Subqueries	A query nested inside an-	Parentheses () for the inner query	p.
	other query[cite: 958].	[cite: 978]	64
Comparison	Used with single-value re-	WHERE monthly_salary >	p.
	sults from subqueries (e.g.,	(<subquery>) [cite: 977, 978]</subquery>	65
	MAX)[cite: 972].		
Set Comparison	Compares a value to a set	ALL, ANY (or SOME) [cite: 960, 993,	p.
	of values returned by a sub-	1006]	66,
	query[cite: 959].		67

Concept	Purpose	Keywords/Operators	Ref.
Membership	Checks if a value is present	IN, NOT IN [cite: 959, 1025]	p.
	in the set returned by a sub-		64,
	query[cite: 959].		68
Existence	Checks for the existence of	EXISTS, NOT EXISTS [cite: 959, 1098,	p.
	any rows returned by the	1152]	64,
	subquery[cite: 959].		73,
			76

Functions

Function Type	Functions	Purpose/Example	Ref.
String Process-	LEFT(<string>, n),</string>	Selects a specified part of a string[cite:	p.
ing	RIGHT(<string>, n),</string>	588, 589, 590].	30
	SUBSTRING(<string>, m,</string>		
	n)[cite: 588, 589, 590].		
Conditional	CASE WHEN <condition></condition>	Creates if-else selection for column	p.
Logic	THEN <value> [ELSE</value>	values or updates[cite: 1289, 1292,	83,
	<pre><value>] END[cite: 1290].</value></pre>	1293].	84
NULL Handling	COALESCE(v1, v2,),	${\tt COALESCE}$ returns the first non-NULL	p.
	NULLIF(v1, v2)[cite: 1191,	value[cite: 1189]. NULLIF returns	79,
	1206].	NULL if $v1 = v2$ [cite: 1205].	80
Window Func-	RANK() OVER,	Calculates values across a group	p.
tions	ROW_NUMBER() OVER, AVG()	of rows (a "window") retaining all	7-15
	OVER[cite: 82, 95, 96].	rows[cite: 78, 80].	
Custom Func-	CREATE [OR REPLACE]	Creates a user-defined function (UDF)	p.
tion	FUNCTION[cite: 185].	to wrap transformation logic[cite:	16,
		181, 182].	18

IV. Data Manipulation Language (DML) - Modification

Command	Purpose	Basic Structure/Keywords	Ref.
INSERT INTO	Adds one or more rows	INSERT INTO <table_name></table_name>	p.
	into a table[cite: 846].	[(<col_list>)] VALUES</col_list>	54
		(<value_list>) [cite: 847, 850]</value_list>	
Bulk Insertion	Inserts data generated	<pre>INSERT INTO <table_name></table_name></pre>	p.
	by a SELECT state-	(<col_list>) SELECT FROM</col_list>	56
	ment[cite: 862].	GROUP BY [cite: 869, 870, 871]	
DELETE	Removes rows from a	DELETE FROM <table_name> WHERE</table_name>	p.
FROM	table based on a condi-	<pre><condition> (can use subqueries) [cite:</condition></pre>	57
	tion[cite: 876].	877, 880]	
UPDATE	Modifies existing values	<pre>UPDATE <table_name> SET <col/> =</table_name></pre>	p.
	in rows[cite: 892].	<pre><value> [WHERE <condition>]</condition></value></pre>	58
		update multiple columns or use ex-	
		pressions/subqueries) [cite: 893, 897,	
		900]	

V. Views and CTE

Tools for structuring and simplifying complex queries[cite: 1338].

Concept	Purpose	Keywords/Structure	Ref.
CTE	Defines a temporary,	WITH CTE_name AS (SELECT)	p.
	named result set for	[, another_CTE AS (SELECT)]	90,
	use within a single	SELECT FROM CTE_name [cite:	92
	query[cite: 1350].	1353, 1357, 1362]	
Materialized	Forces the temporary	WITH CTE_name AS MATERIALIZED ()	p.
CTE	result set to be stored	[cite: 1420]	94
	(materialized)[cite:		
	1414, 1417].		
View	A virtual table derived	CREATE VIEW <view_name> AS</view_name>	p.
	from other tables, used	SELECT [cite: 1437]	95
	to simplify queries[cite:		
	1433, 1435].		
Materialized	A view whose data is	CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW	p.
View	physically stored at cre-	<pre><view_name> AS SELECT [WITH</view_name></pre>	99,
	ation time[cite: 1486].	NO DATA]; [cite: 1481, 1499]	100

Concept	Purpose	Keywords/Structure	Ref.
Refresh View	-	REFRESH MATERIALIZED VIEW <pre><view_name>; [cite: 1500]</view_name></pre>	p. 100