SQL WHERE Clause

The SQL WHERE Clause

The WHERE clause is used to filter records.

It is used to extract only those records that fulfill a specified condition.

Example

Get your own SQL Server

Select all customers from Mexico:

```
SELECT * FROM Customers
WHERE Country='Mexico';
```

Try it Yourself »

Syntax

```
SELECT column1, column2, ...
FROM table_name
WHERE condition;
```

Note: The `WHERE` clause is not only used in `SELECT` statements, it is also used in `UPDATE` , `DELETE` , etc.!

Demo Database

Below is a selection from the **Customers** table used in the examples:

CustomerID	CustomerName	ContactName	Address	City	PostalCode	Country
1	Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Obere Str. 57	Berlin	12209	Germany
2	Ana Trujillo Emparedados y helados	Ana Trujillo	Avda. de la Constitución 2222	México D.F.	05021	Mexico
3	Antonio Moreno Taquería	Antonio Moreno	Mataderos 2312	México D.F.	05023	Mexico
4	Around the Horn	Thomas Hardy	120 Hanover Sq.	London	WA1 1DP	UK
5	Berglunds snabbköp	Christina Berglund	Berguvsvägen 8	Luleå	S-958 22	Sweden

Text Fields vs. Numeric Fields

SQL requires single quotes around text values (most database systems will also allow double quotes).

However, numeric fields should not be enclosed in quotes:

Example

```
SELECT * FROM Customers
WHERE CustomerID=1;
```

Try it Yourself »

Operators in The WHERE Clause

You can use other operators than the `=` operator to filter the search.

Example

Select all customers with a CustomerID greater than 80:

```
SELECT * FROM Customers
WHERE CustomerID > 80;
```

Try it Yourself »

The following operators can be used in the `WHERE` clause:

Operator	Description	Example
=	Equal	Try it
>	Greater than	Try it
<	Less than	Try it

>=	Greater than or equal	Try it
<=	Less than or equal	Try it
<>	Not equal. **Note:** In some versions of SQL this operator may be written as !=	Try it
BETWEEN	Between a certain range	Try it
LIKE	Search for a pattern	Try it
IN	To specify multiple possible values for a column	Try it

Test Yourself With Exercises

Exercise:

Select all records where the `City` column has the value "Berlin".

```
SELECT * FROM Customers
          =          ;
```

Submit Answer »

Start the Exercise