# SQL COUNT() Function

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## The SQL COUNT() Function

The `COUNT()` function returns the number of rows that matches a specified criterion.

### Example



Find the total number of products in the `Products` table:

```
SELECT COUNT(*)
FROM Products;
```



## Syntax

```
SELECT COUNT(column_name)
FROM table_name
WHERE condition;
```

## Demo Database

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

| ProductID | ProductName | SupplierID | CategoryID | Unit | Price |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Chais | 1 | 1 | 10 boxes x 20 bags | 18 |
| 2 | Chang | 1 | 1 | 24 - 12 oz bottles | 19 |
| 3 | Aniseed Syrup | 1 | 2 | 12 - 550 ml bottles | 10 |
| 4 | Chef Anton's Cajun Seasoning | 2 | 2 | 48 - 6 oz jars | 22 |
| 5 | Chef Anton's Gumbo Mix | 2 | 2 | 36 boxes | 21.35 |

# Add a Where Clause

You can add a `WHERE` clause to specify conditions:

## Example

Find the number of products where `Price` is higher than 20:

```
SELECT COUNT(ProductID)
FROM Products
WHERE Price > 20;
```

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# Specify Column

You can specify a column name instead of the asterix symbol `(*)`.

If you specify a column instead of `(*)`, NULL values will not be counted.

## Example

Find the number of products where the `ProductName` is not null:

```
SELECT COUNT(ProductName)
FROM Products;
```

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**Unfortunately** the `Products` table does not have any NULL values, but we can fix that. Run the SQL statement below, and re-run the example above to see the result.

## Example

Insert a NULL value to better understand the example above:

```
UPDATE Products
SET ProductName = NULL
WHERE ProductName = 'Chang';
```

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# Ignore Duplicates

You can ignore duplicates by using the `DISTINCT` keyword in the `COUNT` function.

If `DISTINCT` is specified, rows with the same value for the specified column will be counted as one.

## Example

How many *different* prices are there in the `Products` table:

```
SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT Price)
FROM Products;
```

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# Use an Alias

Give the counted column a name by using the `AS` keyword.

## Example

Name the column "number of records":

```
SELECT COUNT(*) AS [number of records]
FROM Products;
```

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# Test Yourself With Exercises

## Exercise:

Use the correct function to return the number of records that have the `Price` value set to 18.

```
SELECT       (*)
FROM Products
       Price = 18;
```

Submit Answer »

Start the Exercise