

# Modifying Data

**TRAINSIGNAL**  
THE GLOBAL LEADER IN PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER TRAINING



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# Modifying Data

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## Modifying Data

SQL isn't all about retrieving data  
Insert new data  
Update existing rows  
Delete existing rows

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## Be Careful!

SQL Server always assumes you know what you're doing

- There is no Ctrl-Z option in SQL Server
- Mistakes can be an RGE

Tips to avoid disasters

- Always start with a **SELECT** statement
  - **SELECT** will never modify data
- Always add a **WHERE** statement
  - Not a bad idea to start with it
- Comment code that modifies the database
  - Avoids "accidental F5"

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## INSERT Statements

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## INSERT Statements

Creates new rows

Syntax

```
INSERT [INTO] <Table> [(<columns>)]  
VALUES (<values>)  
-- or --  
SELECT ...
```

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## Providing Data

Column list is optional

- If provided, you must provide data in that order
- If not provided, you must provide data in order of table
  - Skip any column marked as "IDENTITY" (auto-count)
  - Generally not a best practice

Special values

- **DEFAULT** keyword to indicate you wish to use default value
- **NULL** keyword for null values

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## Providing Data

Row constructors

- Provide multiple rows in one INSERT statement
- Separate value lists with commas

```
INSERT ...  
VALUES (<values>)  
      , (<values>)
```

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## UPDATE Statements

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## UPDATE Statements

Modify existing values

```
UPDATE <table>
SET <column> = <value> [, ...]
WHERE <condition>
```

Missing **WHERE** statement updates all values

Values can be calculated from existing value in table

```
SET ListPrice = ListPrice * 1.1
```

Use **DEFAULT** and **NULL** for default and null values

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## UPDATE with Joins

```
UPDATE Contacts
SET LastName = oc.LastName
FROM Contacts c
    INNER JOIN OldContacts oc
        ON c.ContactID = oc.ContactID
```

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## DELETE Statements

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## DELETE Statements

Removes entire rows

- Use **UPDATE** to remove values from specific cells

```
DELETE [FROM] <table>  
WHERE <condition>
```

Missing **WHERE** statement deletes all data

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## DELETE with Join

```
-- Only deletes contacts that  
-- exist in BadContacts
```

```
DELETE FROM Contacts  
FROM Contacts c  
    INNER JOIN BadContacts bc  
    ON c.ContactID = bc.ContactID
```

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## TRUNCATE

Deletes all rows from table

Does not “log” operation

Not available for tables serving as a parent for child tables

- Could not truncate Customers table if Orders had a foreign key relationship for Customers

```
TRUNCATE <table>
```

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