Common SQL Functions

The functions in this cheat sheet can be used to manipulate values in a data set.

STRING

The functions in the table below can be used to manipulate text or alphanumeric values.

Function	Description	Sample Usage
LOWER	Makes text lowercase. For example LOWER('CAREERFOUNDRY') will become 'career foundry'	SELECT LOWER(title) FROM film
UPPER	Makes text uppercase. For example, UPPER('CareerFoundry') will become 'CAREER FOUNDRY'	SELECT UPPER(title) FROM film
LENGTH	Counts the number of characters in a string. For example, LEN('Career') will return a value of 6	SELECT LEN(title) FROM film

DATE/TIME

The functions in this table are used to manipulate data or date-timestamp values. For example, you could extract the month or year from a date value using the formula DATE_PART('field', columnname), where 'field' is one of the values listed below:

Field	Description	Sample Usage
year	To extract the year from the date-time stamp	SELECT DATE_PART('year', last_update) FROM film
month	To extract the month from the date-time stamp	SELECT DATE_PART('month', last_update) FROM film

day	To extract the day from the date-time stamp	SELECT DATE_PART('day', last_update) FROM film
hour	To extract the hour from the date-time stamp	SELECT DATE_PART('hour', last_update) FROM film

For a complete list of date/time functions, please refer to the [PostgreSQL Documentation](#)