

What is Datasette?

Datasette's creator Simon Willison built it as a tool for data journalists and has likened it to the impulse "we have all this data, let's make it available, say on a Google Sheet", except it is a much more powerful and well-designed solution for sharing data and can be extended in lots of different directions (like using your published dataset in a map for example). But the 'publish via a google sheet' gives you an initial idea of Datasette's starting point. It is built "on top of SQLite".

What can I do with it?

— **Look at datasettes that other people** have published. There are [examples on the datasette website](#).

— **Publish a csv as a datasette by remixing [Simon Willison's glitch app](#)** that runs Datasette. Here is an example: a csv I added to my remix of the app.
https://iot-remix-dsette.glitch.me/data/iot_df_halfclean
(Each csv that you add will appear as a table).

— **Export data from a datasette as JSON or CSV**. This can be the entire datasette or, as below, a selection that you have made (a CSV of ten rows can be exported in this example)

Custom SQL query returning 10 rows ([hide](#))

```
1 select * from iot_df_halfclean LIMIT 10;
```

Format SQL

Run SQL

This data as [json](#), [CSV](#)

— **Share a selection / query result with someone from a published datasette, using the URL**

https://register-of-members-interests.datasettes.com/regmem?sql=SELECT+*%0D%0AFROM+items%0D%0AWHERE+item+LIKE+%22%25rugby%25%22%3B

— **Install datasette locally and query a sqlite database** without the usual options (i.e. GUIs, command line, notebooks).

Install it *pip install datasette*
and now you can open it using datasette *datasette serve /path/some_database.db*

and you get an interface running locally on a browser that lets you write SQLite queries.