# **SQL WHERE Clause**

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## 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.

### **WHERE 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 in the Northwind sample database:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **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 |

## WHERE Clause Example

The following SQL statement selects all the customers from the country "Mexico", in the "Customers" table:

### **Example**[**Get your own SQL Server**](https://www.w3schools.com/spaces/)

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

[Try it Yourself »](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_select_where)

## 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 »](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_select_where_number)

## Operators in The WHERE Clause

The following operators can be used in the WHERE clause:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Operator** | **Description** | **Example** |
| = | Equal | [Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_op_equal_to) |
| > | Greater than | [Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_op_greater_than) |
| < | Less than | [Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_op_less_than) |
| >= | Greater than or equal | [Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_op_greater_than2) |
| <= | Less than or equal | [Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_op_less_than2) |
| <> | Not equal. **Note:** In some versions of SQL this operator may be written as != | [Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_op_not_equal_to) |
| BETWEEN | Between a certain range | [Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_op_between) |
| LIKE | Search for a pattern | [Try it](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/trysql.asp?filename=trysql_op_like) |
| IN | To specify multiple possible values for a column |  |