## What is a Warehouse in Snowflake?

A **warehouse** is the compute engine that powers your queries.

Without a warehouse, Snowflake cannot process any SQL commands.  
Think of it like the engine in a car — it makes everything run.

## Why Do We Create Warehouses?

Warehouses are needed to:

* Run queries (SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, etc.)
* Load data into tables
* Export data
* Run scheduled or background jobs

## When Should You Create More Than One Warehouse?

You may want separate warehouses for different purposes:

| **Scenario** | **Why Use Separate Warehouses** |
| --- | --- |
| Reporting vs ETL jobs | So they don't slow each other down |
| Small tasks vs large jobs | Each gets the right amount of compute power |
| Different teams | Control costs and performance separately |

## How Many Warehouses Can You Have?

* You can create **as many warehouses as needed**
* They can be different sizes: XSMALL, SMALL, MEDIUM, etc.
* Each warehouse works independently

## Creating a Warehouse

CREATE WAREHOUSE my\_whWITH WAREHOUSE\_SIZE = 'SMALL'

AUTO\_SUSPEND = 60

AUTO\_RESUME = TRUE;

* WAREHOUSE\_SIZE: Controls speed and cost
* AUTO\_SUSPEND = 60: Pauses after 60 seconds of no activity
* AUTO\_RESUME = TRUE: Starts automatically when needed

## Using a Warehouse

Activate it before running SQL:

USE WAREHOUSE my\_wh;

## Pausing and Resuming Warehouses

To pause (to save money):

ALTER WAREHOUSE my\_wh SUSPEND;

To resume:

ALTER WAREHOUSE my\_wh RESUME;

## Viewing All Warehouses

SHOW WAREHOUSES;

This shows the list of all available warehouses with their state, size, and other details.

## Do Warehouses Cost Money?

Yes — but **only while they are running**.  
You are billed based on **how long they run**, not how many queries you use.

Snowflake charges per second of usage, so it’s cost-efficient.

## Summary

| **Question** | **Answer** |
| --- | --- |
| What is a warehouse? | A compute engine that runs your queries |
| Why is it needed? | Without it, queries cannot run |
| How many can you create? | As many as needed |
| Can you pause a warehouse? | Yes, using the SUSPEND command |
| Does a warehouse cost money? | Only while running |
| Can different teams use different warehouses? | Yes, and it's recommended |