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SQL | Concatenation Operator

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Prerequisite: [Basic Select statement](#), [Insert into clause](#), [SQL Create Clause](#), [SQL Aliases](#)

|| or concatenation operator is use to **link columns** or **character strings**. We can also use a **literal**. A literal is a **character**, **number** or **date** that is included in the SELECT statement.

Let's demonstrate it through an example:

Syntax:

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```
SELECT id, first_name, last_name, first_name || last_name,
       salary, first_name || salary FROM myTable
```

Output (Third and Fifth Columns show values concatenated by operator ||)

id	first_name	last_name	first_name last_name	salary	first_name salary
1	Rajat	Rawat	RajatRawat	10000	Rajat10000
2	Geeks	ForGeeks	GeeksForGeeks	20000	Geeks20000
3	Shane	Watson	ShaneWatson	50000	Shane50000
4	Kedar	Jadhav	KedarJadhav	90000	Kedar90000

Note: Here above we have used **||** which is known as **Concatenation operator** which is used to link 2 or as **many** columns as you want in your select query and it is **independent of the datatype** of column. Here above we have linked 2 columns i.e, **first_name+last_name** as well as **first_name+salary**.

We can also use **literals** in the **concatenation** operator. Let's see:

Example 1: Using character literal

Syntax:

```
SELECT id, first_name, last_name, salary,
       first_name||' has salary '||salary as "new" FROM myTable
```

Output : (Concatenating three values and giving a name 'new')

id	first_name	last_name	salary	new
1	Rajat	Rawat	10000	Rajat has salary 10000
2	Geeks	ForGeeks	20000	Geeks has salary 20000
3	Shane	Watson	50000	Shane has salary 50000
4	Kedar	Jadhav	90000	Kedar has salary 90000

Note: Here above we have used **has salary** as a character literal in our select statement. Similarly we can use number literal or date literal according to our requirement.

Example 2: Using character as well as number literal

Syntax:

```
SELECT id, first_name, last_name, salary, first_name||100||'
       has id '||id AS "new" FROM myTable
```

Output (Making readable output by concatenating a string with values)

id	first_name	last_name	salary	new
1	Rajat	Rawat	10000	Rajat100 has id 1
2	Geeks	ForGeeks	20000	Geeks100 has id 2
3	Shane	Watson	50000	Shane100 has id 3
4	Kedar	Jadhav	90000	Kedar100 has id 4

Here above we have used **has salary** as a character literal as well as **100** as number literal in our select statement.

References:

- 1) About Concatenation operator: [Oracle Docs](#)
- 2) Performing SQL Queries Online: [Oracle Live SQL](#)

Note: For performing SQL Queries online you must have account on Oracle, if you don't have then you can make by opening above link.

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