



SQL | Except Clause

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In SQL, EXCEPT returns those tuples that are returned by the first SELECT operation, and not returned by the second SELECT operation.

This is the same as using a subtract operator in relational algebra.

Example:

Say we have two relations, Students and TA (Teaching Assistant). We want to return all those students who are not teaching assistants. The query can be formulated as:

Students Table:

AD

StudentID	Name	Course
1	Rohan	DBMS
2	Kevin	OS
3	Mansi	DBMS
4	Mansi	ADA
5	Rekha	ADA
6	Megha	OS

TA Table:

StudentID	Name	Course
1	Kevin	TOC
2	Sita	IP
3	Manik	AP
4	Rekha	SNS

```
SELECT Name
      FROM Students
EXCEPT
SELECT NAME
      FROM TA;
```

Output:

Rohan
Mansi
Megha

To retain duplicates, we must explicitly write **EXCEPTALL** instead of EXCEPT.

```
SELECT Name
      FROM Students
EXCEPTALL
SELECT Name
      FROM TA;
```

Output:

Rohan
Mansi
Mansi
Megha

Difference between EXCEPT and NOT IN Clause

EXCEPT automatically removes all duplicates in the final result, whereas NOT IN retains duplicate tuples. It is also important to note that EXCEPT is not supported by MySQL.

This article is contributed by **Anannya Uberoi**. If you like GeeksforGeeks and would like to contribute, you can also write an article using [contribute.geeksforgeeks.org](https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/contribute) or mail your article