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<https://github.com/eburt23/DBFoundations-Module07.git>

## **SQL UDF and the differences between Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement Functions**

Understanding when an User Defined functions (UDFs) is used and the difference between Scalar, Inline and Multi-Statement functions requires an understanding of SQL, basic views and how views interact with functions, each command builds on the level of knowledge and experience of the database developer/administrator.

UDFs are built-in and customized code used to assist in repurposing commonly used code. Keywords such as return or returns are used within the syntax in conjunction with a list of parameters that define the type of values returned – either single or table and are most valuable when creating views versus creating functions. .

Scalar functions also return single values and are used in complex code like arrays or result sets. Inline functions return information like a basic view in a table format and Multi-Statement Functions returns table formatted data, but allows for the user to define the data.

Finally, all four of these terms are functions that begin with a basic view and can be used interchangeably based on the user's needs, and level of complexity of the data request. Functions are a integral part of understanding SQL and creating comprehensive reusable code/scripts.

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