SQLShack

SQL Server Management Studio – A step-by-step installation guide

May 14, 2014 by Muhammad Imran

SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) is the official and preferred client user interface which can be used to manage, configure, deploy, upgrade and administer a SQL Server instance. The tool interface is quite user friendly and comprehensive. It is shipped with every SQL Server version and is regularly updated and enhanced. If you are planning on learning how to use SQL Server from scratch, consider using SQL Server Management studio as a first step on your journey to learning SQL Server.

Why is this installation so important? Like any other technology, in SQL Server too we need to focus on theoretical knowledge as well as hands-on practice and in order to achieve hands-on practice, SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) is essential.

In this SQL Server Management Studio tutorial, I will demonstrate how to install SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) in 12 easy steps. This tutorial will help you to perform the installation process of the SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).

Step 1:

First of all you need to download SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) installation files (SQLManagementStudio_x64_ENU.exe / SQLManagementStudio_x86_ENU.exe) from the SQL Server download page depending on your server type (x64,x86), and keep it in a separate folder.
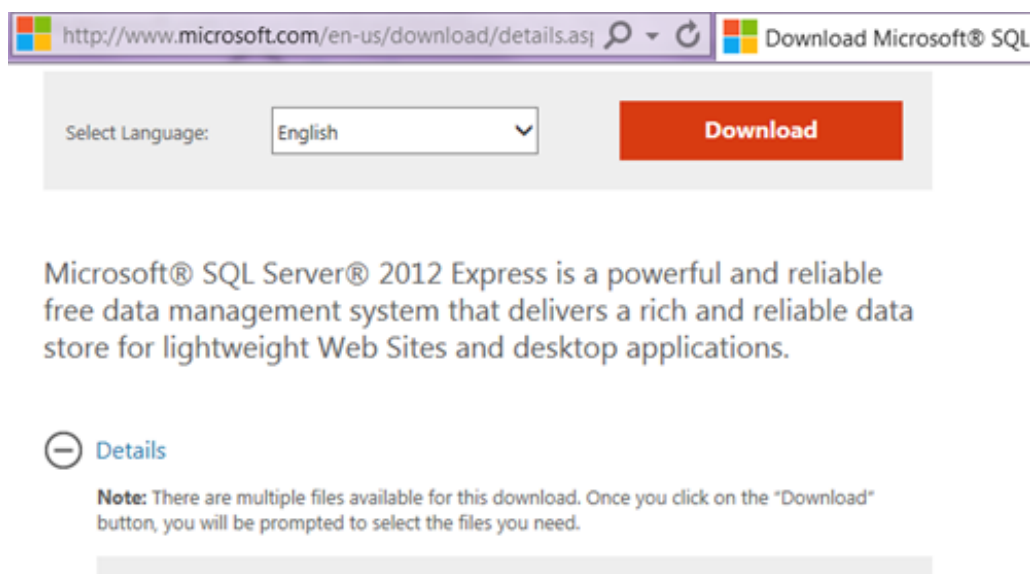
Version:	Date Published:
11.0.2100.60	5/14/2012

| File name:	File size:
ENU\x64\SQLEXPR_x64_ENU.exe	132.3 MB
ENU\x64\SQLEXPRADV_x64_ENU.exe	1.3 GB
ENU\x64\SQLEXPRWT_x64_ENU.exe	669.9 MB
ENU\x64\SqlLocalDB.MSI	33.0 MB
ENU\x64\SQLManagementStudio_x64_ENU.exe	600.2 MB
ENU\x86\SQLEXPR_x86_ENU.exe	116.7 MB
ENU\x86\SQLEXPR32_x86_ENU.exe	101.5 MB
ENU\x86\SQLEXPRADV_x86_ENU.exe	1.3 GB
ENU\x86\SQLEXPRWT_x86_ENU.exe	706.1 MB
ENU\x86\SqlLocalDB.MSI	27.8 MB
ENU\x86\SQLManagementStudio_x86_ENU.exe	614.9 MB

- Less

Step 2:

Once you downloaded the respective file as per your server type, you need to execute it. It will then take you to the first screen namely **SQL Server Installation Center** as shown below. This is the primary installation screen of SQL Server. Other SQL server tools installations can be launched from here as well. Once you are on this screen, you need to select "New SQL Server stand-alone installation or add features to an existing installation" to proceed with the installation.

Step 3:

Once you select the "New SQL Server stand-alone installation or add features to an existing installation" option, it will check the setup rules (pre-requisites) on the server and take you to the license

terms screen. The license terms must be read and accepted like with any other application's **license terms**. Please note that your server must pass the setup rules in order to proceed with the installation.
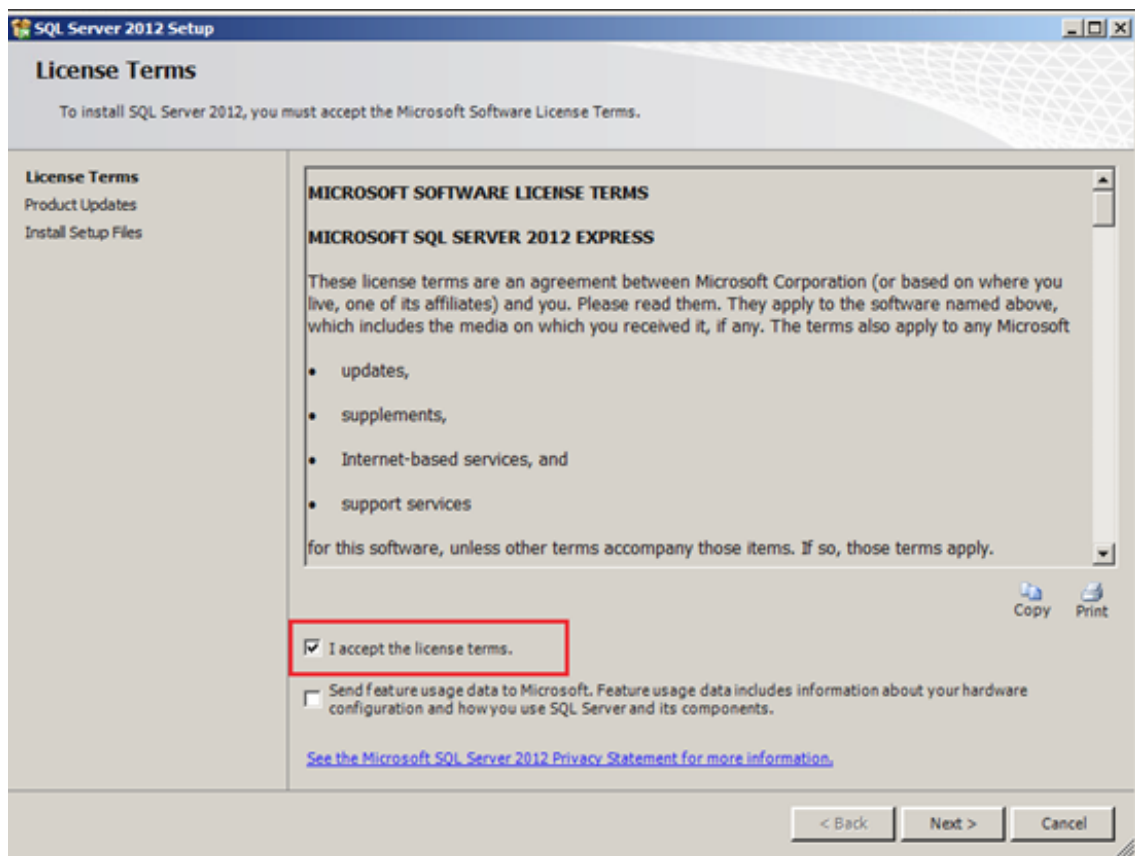

Step 4:

Once you accept the license terms, it is time to scan all the available product updates. The required updates, size and details will be displayed. However, if you need further details, you can select **More Information** which will take you to the support page where you will find all the details related to the updates. You can ignore these updates by deselecting the **'Include SQL Server product updates'** option at this stage.
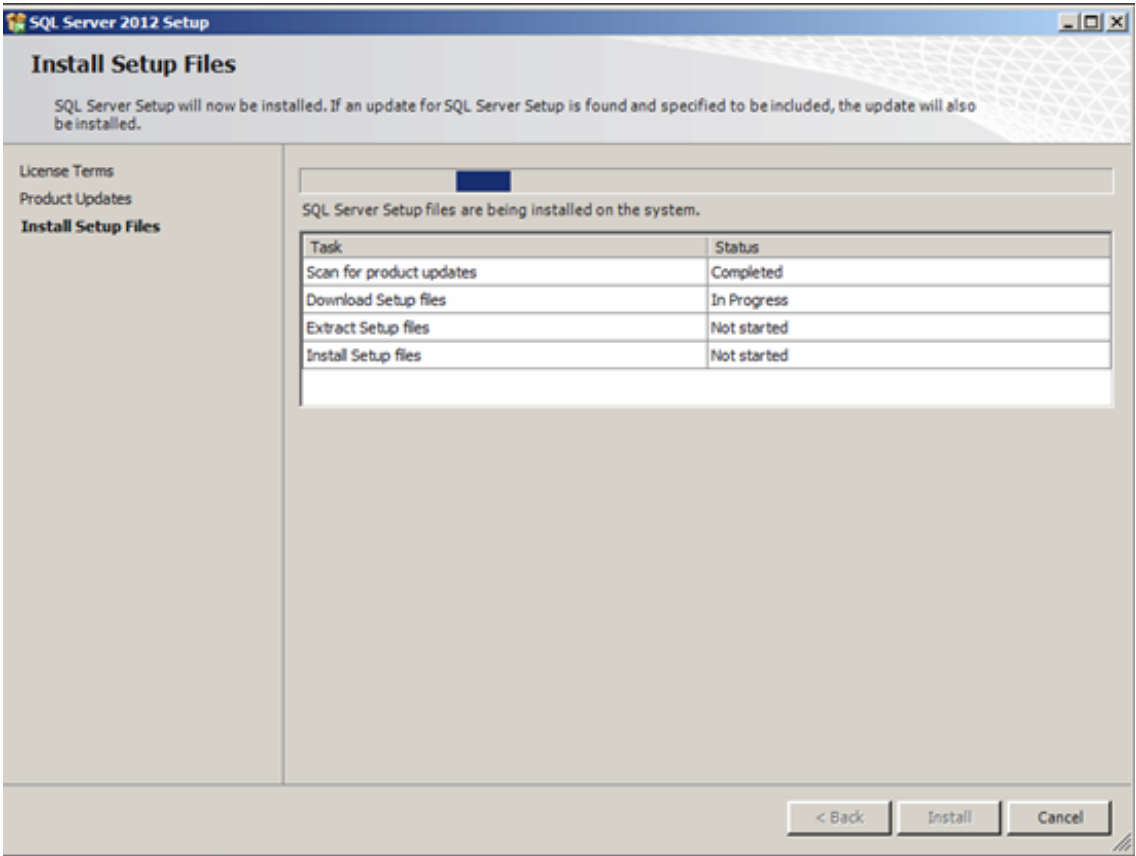
I highly recommend that you download these updates along with the installation. This step might take some time depending on the size of the update files.

Read our privacy statement online

Learn more about SQL Server product updates

| | < Back | Next > | Cancel |
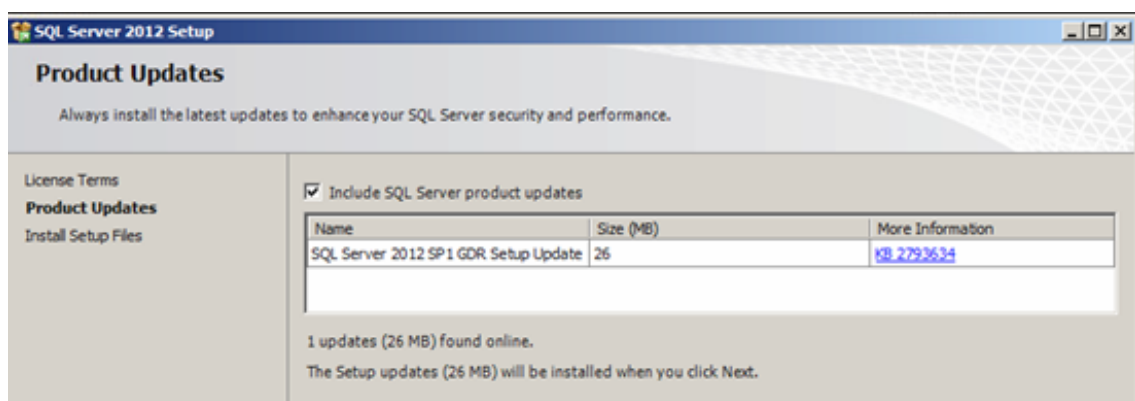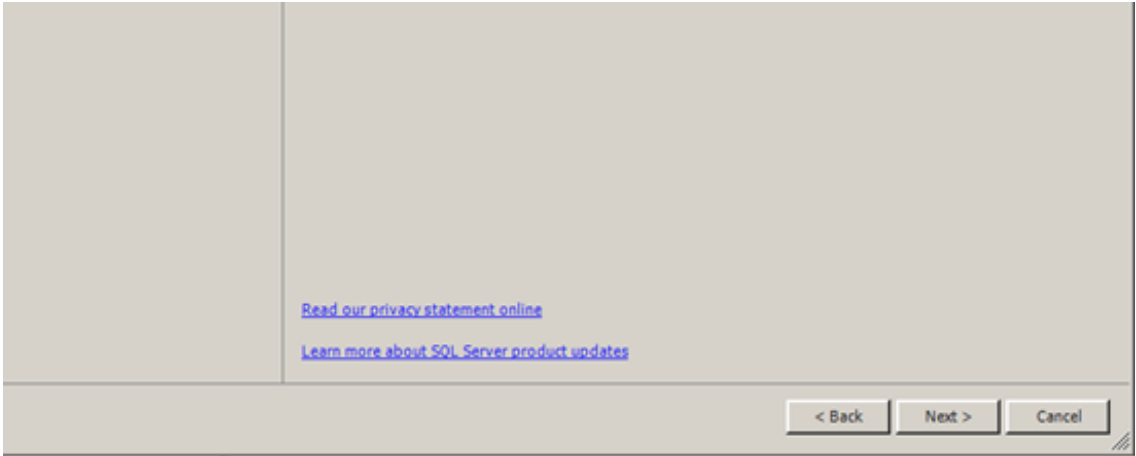
Step 5:

The next step is the Install Setup Files step, where SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) setup will download, extract and install all necessary setup files to your server.

SQL Server 2012 Setup

Install Setup Files

SQL Server Setup will now be installed. If an update for SQL Server Setup is found and specified to be included, the update will also be installed.

License Terms
Product Updates
Install Setup Files

SQL Server Setup files are being installed on the system.

Task	Status
Scan for product updates	Completed
Download Setup files	In Progress
Extract Setup files	Not started
Install Setup files	Not started

| | < Back | Install | Cancel |

Step 6:

Once SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) setup is done with the install setup files, it verifies the setup support rules in order to proceed. It then takes you to the feature selection screen. This is a very comprehensive screen which has detailed information about each feature. When we run the SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) installation, it selects **Management Tools** by default, so you do not

need to select anything here. In addition you can select **Management tools – Basic**. To get more information on this feature you can view the detailed feature description on right hand side.

This screen also gives you the ability to select and deselect all features in one go. This saves lots of time when you need to install multiple features. It also provides detailed information about the prerequisites, the selected features, which prerequisites have already been installed and which will be installed through this installation. You just need to click on the Next button to continue.
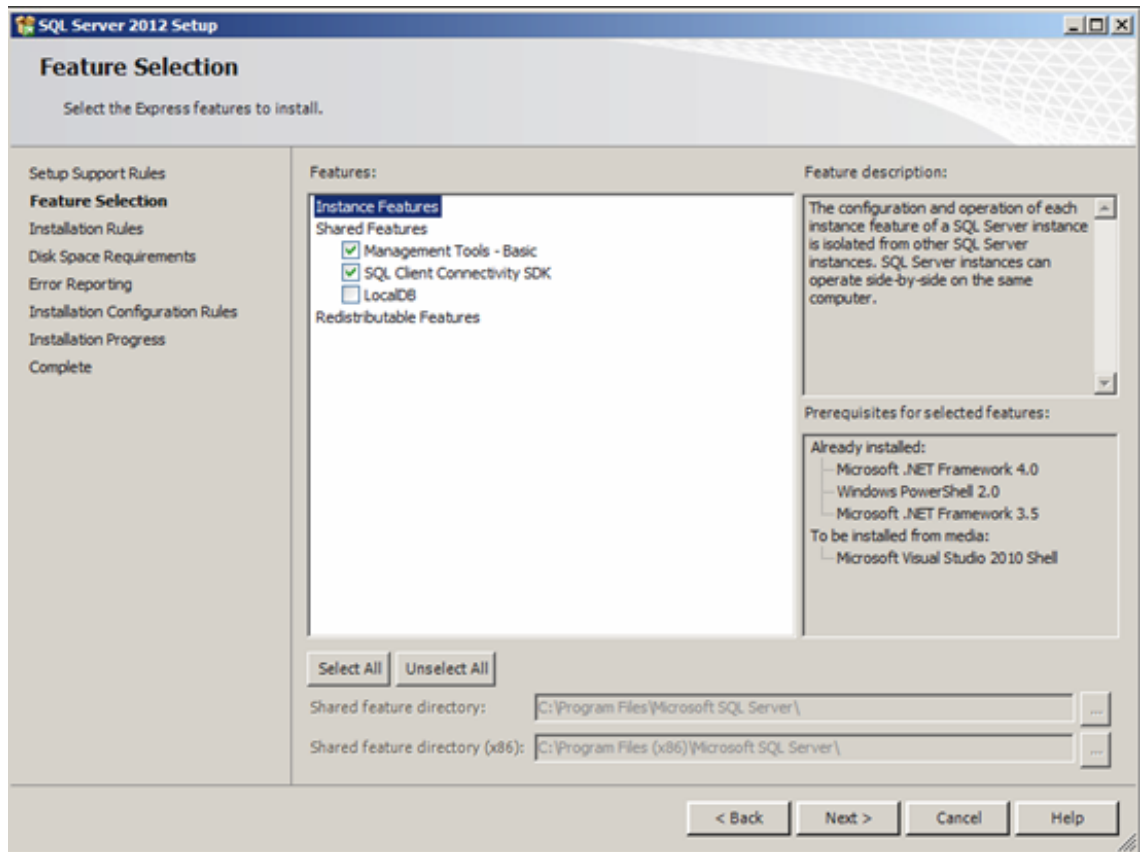
Step 7:

In this step, SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) setup will check the installation rules (pre-requisite for the SSMS). Just click on the Next button to continue.
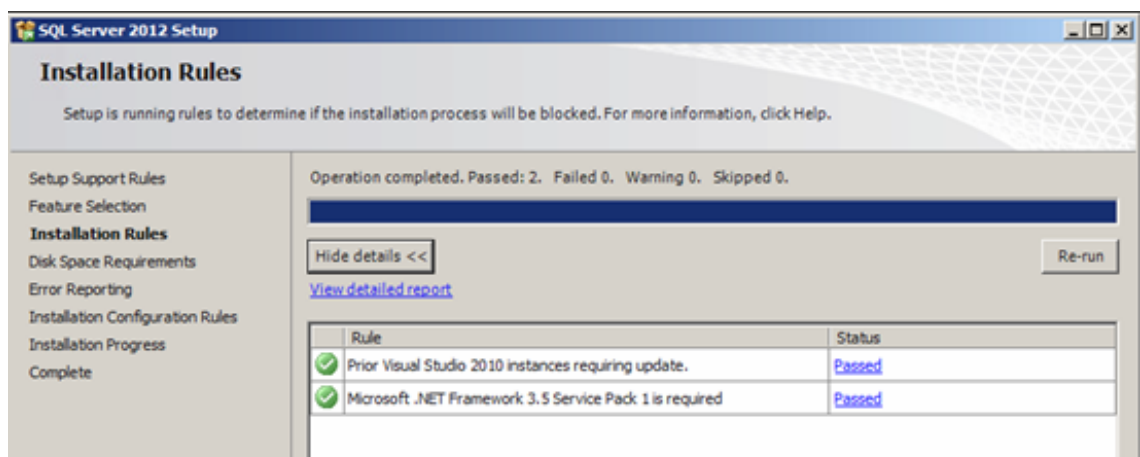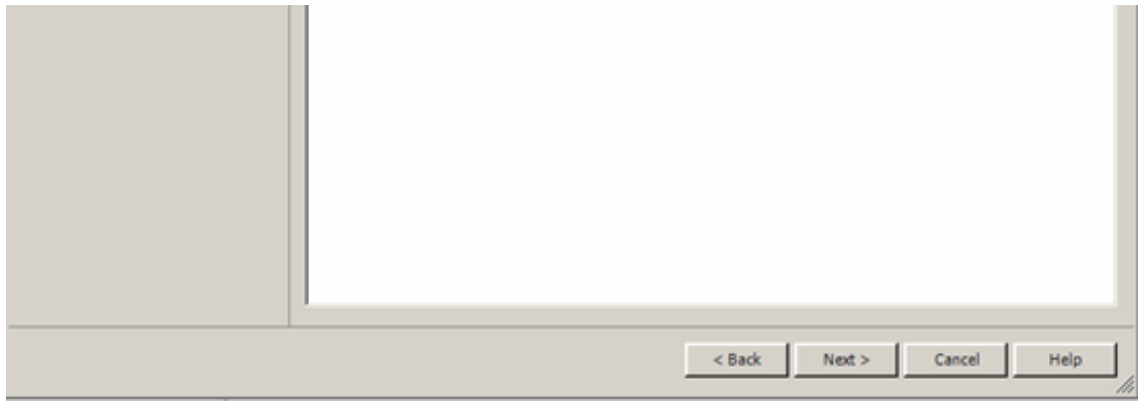
Step 8:

In this step SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) setup will verify the disk space. Please make sure that you have sufficient disk space available. Not having sufficient disk space may result in a faulty in-stallation. Just click on the Next button to continue.
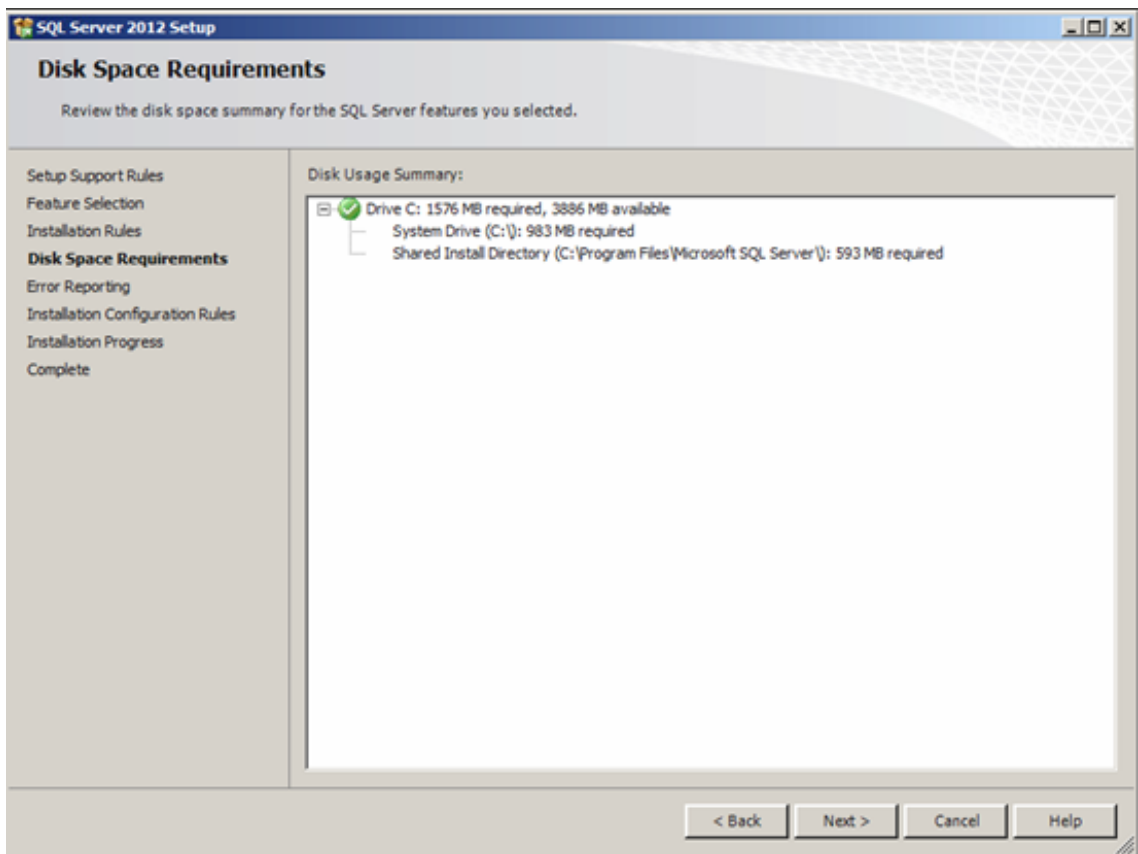
Step 9:

In this step, you have the opportunity to decide whether or not to send the error notifications to Mi-crosoft. This is highly recommended in order to help Microsoft improve future releases and to fix any bugs in the existing release.

Error Reporting

Help Microsoft improve SQL Server features and services.

Setup Support Rules
License Terms
Feature Selection
Installation Rules
Disk Space Requirements
Error Reporting
Installation Configuration Rules
Installation Progress
Complete

Specify the information that you would like to automatically send to Microsoft to improve future releases of SQL Server. These settings are optional. Microsoft treats this information as confidential. Microsoft may provide updates through Microsoft Update to modify feature usage data. These updates might be downloaded and installed on your machine automatically, depending on your Automatic Update settings.
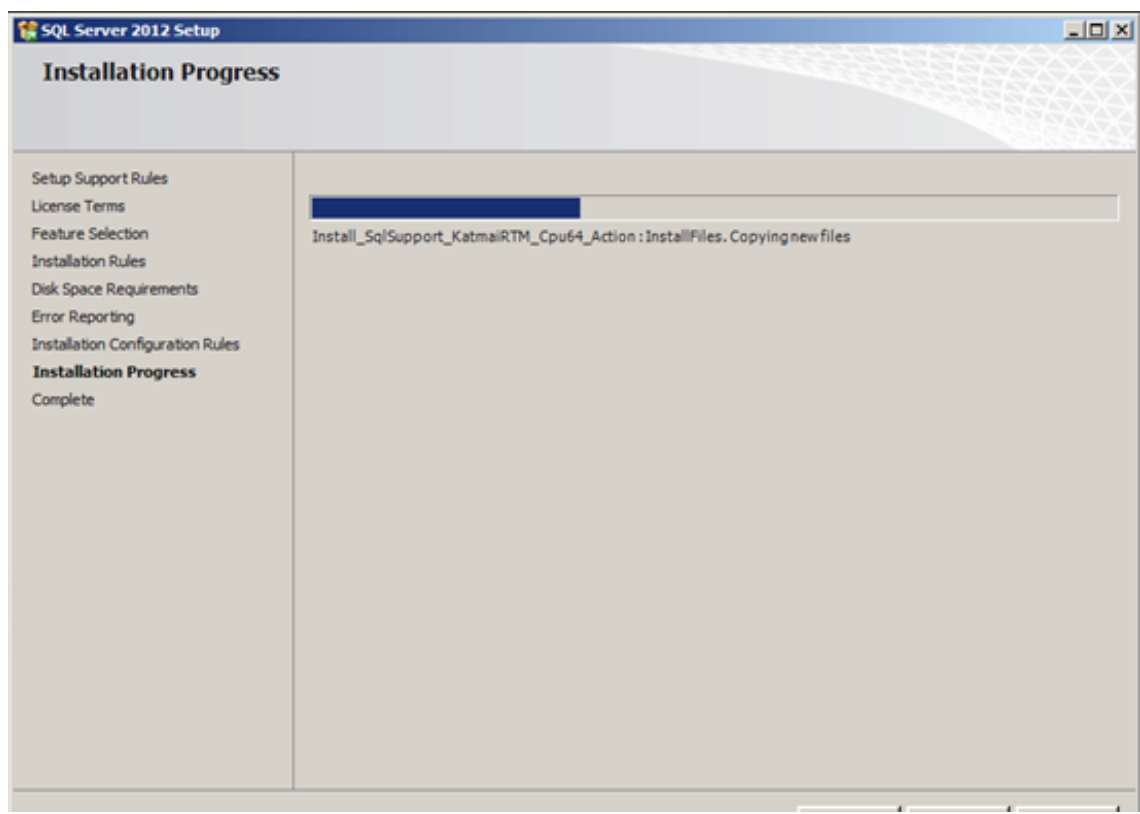
See the Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Privacy Statement for more information.

Read more about Microsoft Update and Automatic Update.

☑ Send Windows and SQL Server Error Reports to Microsoft or your corporate report server. This setting only applies to services that run without user interaction.

< Back   Next >   Cancel   Help

Step 10:

Once you click on the Next button, setup checks the installation configuration rules and if it passed, setup continues. This step will take some time to install SQL Server Management Studio. You can sit back and relax 🙂

SQL Server 2012 Setup

Installation Progress

Setup Support Rules
License Terms
Feature Selection
Installation Rules
Disk Space Requirements
Error Reporting
Installation Configuration Rules
Installation Progress
Complete

Install_SqlSupport_KatmaiRTM_Cpu64_Action : InstallFiles. Copying new files

Step 11:

This step displays the installation status of SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) along with each feature, like a summary. This screen really helps to view what has been installed and what has not. In case one of the features could not be installed, you can re-run the same installation procedure and install that particular feature.
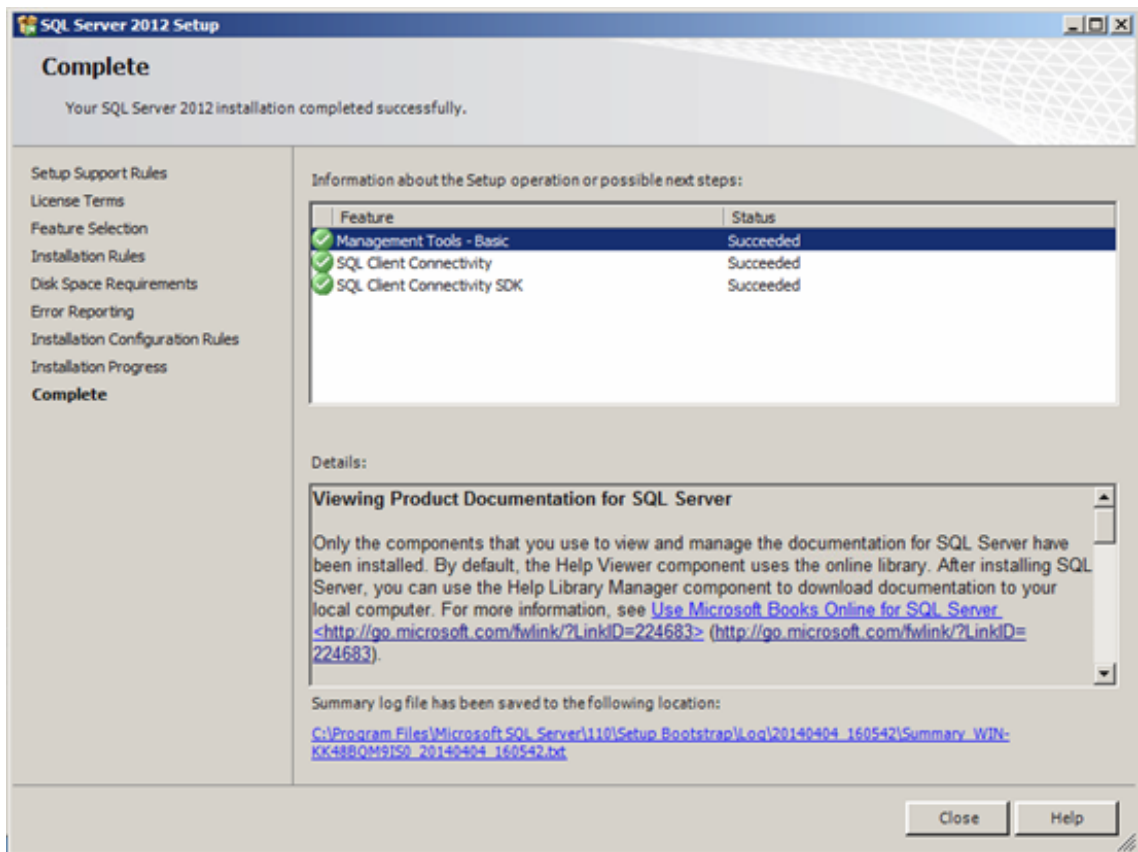

Step 12:

In order to check whether SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) has been installed successfully, you need to select start menu of your server and then further select the SQL Server 2012 menu. You will find the link to SQL Server Management Studio there.
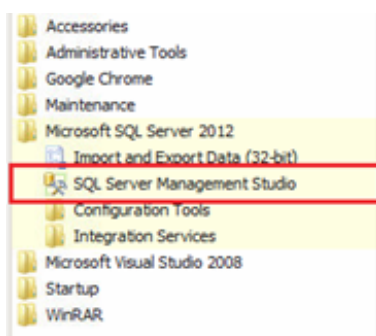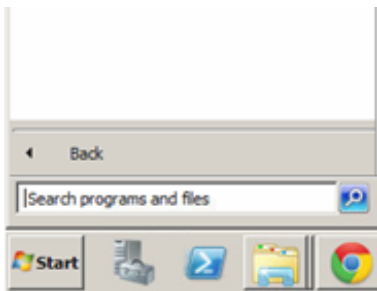
Alternate Option:

Please note that above installation procedure is for a standalone installation of SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS). However you can install SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) along with the SQL Server installation as well, just ensure that you have selected Management Tools in the feature screen as shown below.
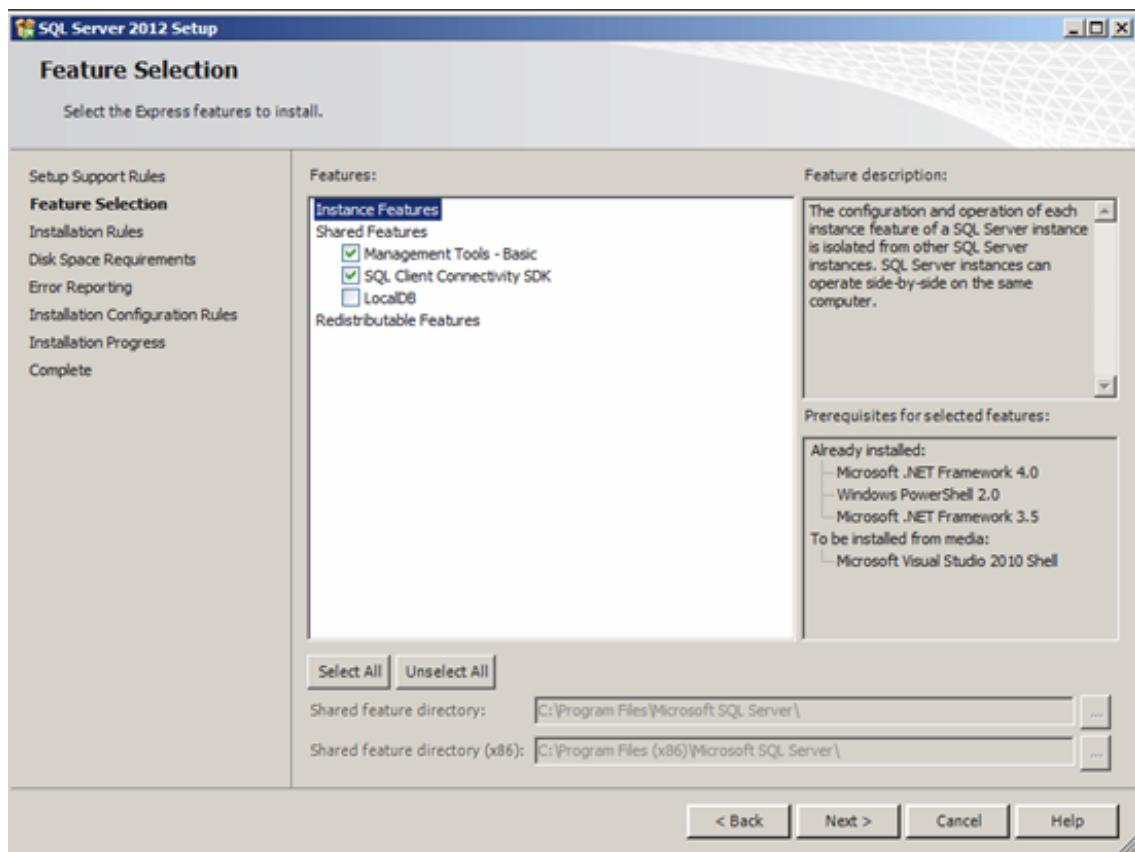
Conclusion:

As you can see, the SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) installation is not complicated at all, it is quite user friendly. You just need to read the instructions carefully and follow them accurately, for a smooth installation.

Now that you have installed SQL Server Management Studio, you can update this software with some free add-ins from ApexSQL that will add formatting, auto-complete, refactoring and search capabilities

free add-ins from ApexSQL that will add formatting, auto-complete, refactoring and search capabilities.
Click here to see how to install these.

Useful resources:

SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) Basics

Step-by-Step: Installing SQL Server Management Studio 2008 Express after Visual Studio 2010

SQL Server download page

Muhammad Imran

A SQL Server expert with more than 13 years of successful & rich experience in database designing, consultancy, development and integration.

He is not only passionate but has a proven ability to decipher intricacies and has authored over 350 articles. His spare time activities include swimming, football and surfing social networks

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krishgouda19   3 days ago

Hi,

I actually need to learn SSIS. But in my feature selection, I am not getting more options to select SSIS and server data tools.

What should i do.?

Like   Reply

Herb123987   11 days ago

Hi. I installed

SQL_Server2005_ManagementStudio

(SQLServer2005_SSMSEE_x64.msi)

It installed just fine.

When I start ssms it gives me the Connect to Server login screen and I don't have one. I'm using this stand alone on my notebook.

I click cancel and I don't know how to setup a server.

Was I supposed to install Visual Studio first - then SSMS?

Thanks.H

Like   Reply

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lucia   Jul 19, 2016

God bless you!

Like   Reply

Ves   May 12, 2016

If you have SQL Server 2012 Native Client, uninstall it before the installation of the SQL Management Studio. It will cause an error "The specified account already exists". You could uninstall the "Native Client" during the installation once you get the error message, and press on "Retry" button after that.

Like   Reply

CharleyOlude   Mar 27, 2016

how long does this free version last for on the system?

Like   Reply

ricky_zhu   Mar 3, 2016

awesome, useful article. so SSMS is not included in MSSQL Express edition?

Like   Reply

Farhana Tuly   Feb 10, 2016

Awesome!! Just installed Management Studio in SQL Server 2012 successfully by your step by step guide. Thank you !

Like   Reply

Guyritch   Jan 19, 2016

88Rafeeq

Please try following the steps as described in this article: **http://www.sqlshack.com/how-to-install-sql-server-2014-management-studio/**

Like   Reply
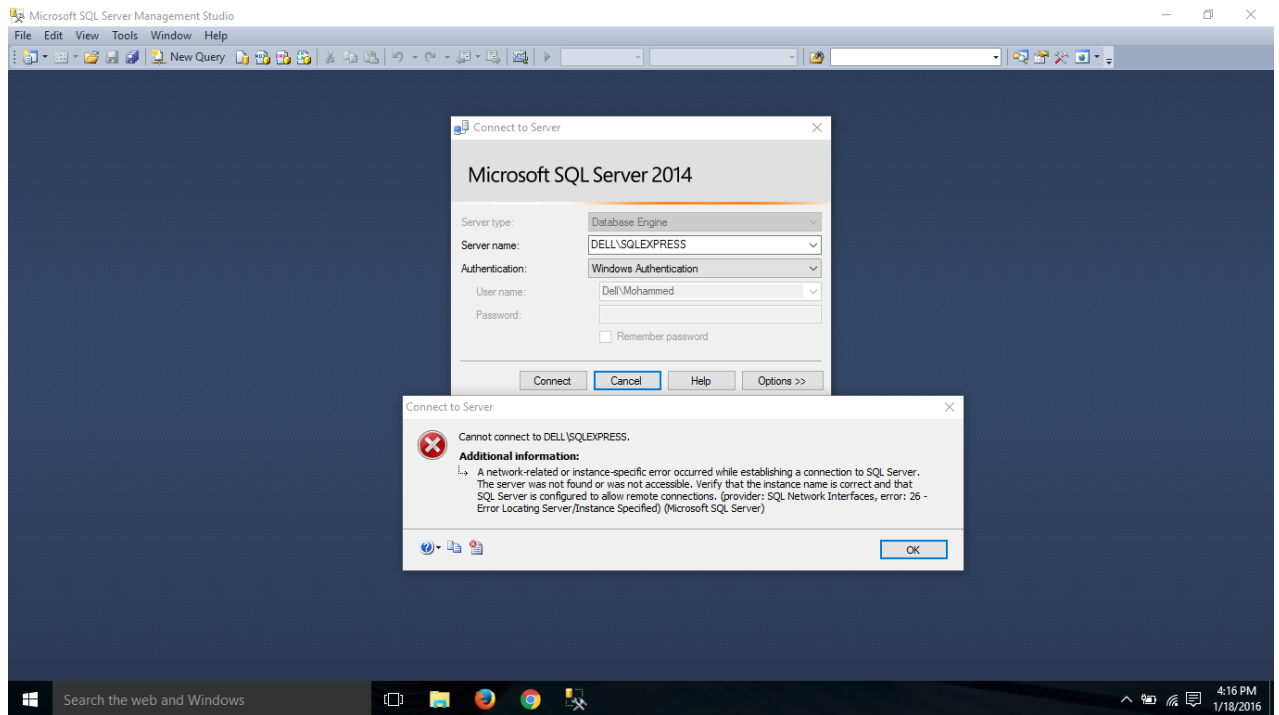
88Rafeeq   Jan 19, 2016

This is the error i am gettting when i am openning the managment studio 2014

Kindly help me to solve this problem

Like   Reply

Sash100   Jan 27, 2016

@88Rafeeq please go to Services in Windows, Check service related to Microsoft SQL server (SqlExpress), Start It.and Re login

Like   Reply

dvs   Jun 24, 2016

@Sash100 @88Rafeeq I am not getting this service in service.msc. I am seeing only SQL server VSS write

Like   Reply

tahirraza21   Aug 24, 2016

@88Rafeeq did your problem solve?if yes,plz share with us.bcz im also facing same problem

Like   Reply

88Rafeeq   Jan 19, 2016

Hi everyone ,

I am a beginner in sql server admin . i have installed sql server 2014

i dnt know this managment studio 2012 will work on that or not

so kindly i anyone help me in this problem , i will be thankful

i want to start from starting with

sql , services,adventure work everything .

in step by step manner so that i can understand easily .

thanking you

Rafeeq

Like   Reply

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dpost015   Dec 9, 2015

Thank you for the great info, one initial step question - after upgrading to SQL Server 2008 R2 SP2 Express (from 2005), which went fine, where chose "Upgrade from 2000, 2005 and 2008..." when then install this SQL Management Studio 2008 R2, if pick "upgrade from 2000, 2005 or 2008" (as did with the Express program), get a validation code error and Mgmt Studio won't continue installation. Should I be choosing a New Installation as shown in Step 2 - not sure if should pick Upgrade since did so on Express install/upgrade or New Installation for this Mgmt Studio install.

Like   Reply

SRathore   Nov 25, 2015

Hey..
Is it possible to install Express edition of SQL management studio 2012 to access remote SQL instances built on SQL Server 2012 Enterprise ??

Like   Reply

---

ammar125   Nov 22, 2015

ammar

it cant show the server name and if i put it it is getting it wrong what should i do now?

Like   Reply

Mark   Oct 8, 2015

Installed Management Studio successfully on a 32 bit and a 64 bit machine. Thanks!

Like   Reply

Harish Chander   Oct 4, 2015

Helpful in all aspect

Like   Reply

MV   Sep 28, 2015

Nightmare getting a good link and instructions for installing the Management Studio so this was very helpful.

Thank you.

Martin

Like   Reply

Paul   Sep 24, 2015

TITLE: SQL Server 2014 Setup

There are validation errors on this page. Click OK to close this dialog box. Review errors at the bottom of the setup page, then provide valid parameters or click Help for more information.

BUTTONS:

OK

In feature selection I receive this error and am unable to unselect shared features, any suggestions

Like   Reply

shekhar1986   Sep 10, 2015

Hi Imran, Thanks a lot for your support. I successfully installed this software on windows7 and windows8 64 bit operating system.Your guide is very helpful. Thanks a lot...

Like   Reply

sethusrinivasan   Jun 29, 2015

You can download latest version of SQL Server Management Studio from **http://go.microsoft.-com/fwlink/?LinkId=531355** .

Details are here: **http://blogs.msdn.com/b/sqlagent/archive/2015/06/27/sql-server-management-studio-june-2015-preview.aspx**

Like   *Reply*

JKolar

So guide to tell us to follow the install wizard? Not really needed. I expected something more, like troubleshooting certain scenarios. I.e. I have the SQL studio installed, installer does not complain about anything at all. But I am still not able to launch it. It just tells me some component is missing and to reinstall the application. Really frustrating after couple of times you do that. :D

Like   *Reply*

NG2015
Apr 10, 2015

nice one Imran, very helpful

Like   *Reply*

NaomiN
Apr 7, 2015

Can SSMS 2012 be installed after SQL Server 2008 R2 Express has been installed (without tools by mistake)?

Like   *Reply*

Shaz
Apr 6, 2015

very helpful :)

Like   *Reply*

nizamece2005
Apr 2, 2015

Hi Imran,

Thanks for this posting. Really helpful & quite clear.

Regards,

Nizam

Like   *Reply*

sandy

Feb 2, 2015

good post really helpful..thanks

Like   Reply

Paulo

Jan 15, 2015

in both scenarios the sql server is installed! i wanted t install only the ms sql studio to connect to a remote sql server!

Like   Reply

sandy

Feb 2, 2015

good post really helpful..thanks