

BRENT OZAR
UNLIMITED™

SQL Server First Responder Kit

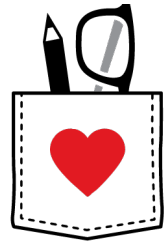
<http://BrentOzar.com/Responder>

SQL Server First Responder Kit

Instance Name: _____

Triaged By: _____

Date and Time: _____



1. Can You Connect?

Connect to SQL Server and run:

```
SELECT name, user_access_desc, state_desc, log_reuse_wait_desc  
FROM sys.databases;
```

Did you connect successfully? _____

Anything notable in returned columns? _____

Problems connecting?

Try the dedicated admin connection: <http://BrentOzar.com/go/DAC>

2. What's running?

Check activity over a short sample using sp_AskBrent™:

```
EXEC dbo.sp_AskBrent;
```

Did you run this successfully? _____

Did it find running queries? _____

Did it make a diagnosis? _____

More info: BrentOzar.com/AskBrent

3. What's SQL Server's Error Log tell you?

Check with SQL Server Management Studio using 'Management' → 'SQL Server Logs'.

Or query the log with this command:

```
EXEC xp_readerrorlog @p1=0, @p2=1
```

Check all logs since at least the last startup and just prior.

(Use @p1=1, @p1=2, etc to access prior logs.)

- Any recent errors/login failures? _____
- When was the last startup? _____
- Was the last restart planned? _____

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4. What's your Quick Assessment?

Mark all which appear to be involved. Write "NOPE" for those you rule out.

- Access failure (Looks like the activity isn't getting to the SQL Server? Verify if this is a security issue, a network issue, an application tier problem, etc.): _____
- Availability loss (multiple reboots): _____
- Performance problem: _____

5. What's the Windows Event Log Got to Say?

Are there events in the windows logs at the same time or just before the problem periods?

System log: _____

Application log: _____

Security log: _____

Remember, particularly in the system log, informational events may help explain errors you're seeing. *Don't filter and look at ONLY errors all the time!*

6. Capture SQL Server Activity to a Table

Run `sp_AskBrent™` in a loop to log activity to a table. This gathers data while you keep looking.

Activity is being captured to the table: _____

```
EXEC sp_AskBrent @OutputDatabaseName = 'DBATools',  
@OutputSchemaName = 'dbo', @OutputTableName =  
'AskBrentResults'
```

More info: BrentOzar.com/AskBrent

(If you use this option, make sure to clean up old data from that table!)

7. SQL Server Overall Waits

Find the top three SQL Server waits in `sys.dm_os_wait_stats` by percent since the last restart using <http://BrentOzar.com/go/getWaits>

- _____
- _____
- _____

Or find high waits captured by `sp_AskBrent™` within 15 minutes of a time (if you were running it in a loop):

```
EXEC sp_AskBrent @AsOf = '2013-10-15 18:45',  
@OutputDatabaseName = 'DBAtools', @OutputSchemaName = 'dbo',  
@OutputTableName = 'AskBrentResults'
```

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9. Assessment by Major Areas

If this is a performance issue, which areas appear suspicious? (This step takes experience— but others can assist in gathering the data used here.)

CPU: _____

Memory: _____

Network: _____

Disk: _____

10. Identify Recent changes

Have there been recent changes in these areas?

App Tier: _____

Stored procedures: _____

Schema changes: _____

Index changes: _____

Major data changes: _____

Infrastructure changes: _____

Maintenance changes: _____

SQL config changes: _____

Windows config changes: _____

11. Notes

