SQL JOINs Cheat Sheet

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JOINING TABLES

JOIN combines data from two tables.

TO	ΟY			CAT	
	toy_id	toy_name	cat_id	cat_id	cat_name
	1	ball	3	1	Kitty
	2	spring	NULL	2	Hugo
	3	mouse	1	3	Sam
	4	mouse	4	4	Misty
	5	ball	1		•

JOIN typically combines rows with equal values for the specified columns. **Usually**, one table contains a **primary key**, which is a column or columns that uniquely identify rows in the table (the cat_id column in the cat table).

The other table has a column or columns that **refer to the primary key columns** in the first table (the cat_id column in the toy table). Such columns are **foreign keys**. The JOIN condition is the equality between the primary key columns in one table and columns referring to them in the other table.

JOIN

JOIN returns all rows that match the ON condition. JOIN is also called INNER JOIN.

SELECT *	toy_id	toy_name	cat_id	cat_id	cat_name
FROM toy	5	ball	1	1	Kitty
JOIN cat	3	mouse	1	1	Kitty
ON toy.cat id = cat.cat id;	1	ball	3	3	Sam
on coj.caca cac.caca,	4	mouse	4	4	Misty

There is also another, older syntax, but it **isn't recommended**.

List joined tables in the FROM clause, and place the conditions in the WHERE clause.

SELECT *
FROM toy, cat
WHERE toy.cat_id = cat.cat_id;

JOIN CONDITIONS

The JOIN condition doesn't have to be an equality – it can be any condition you want. JOIN doesn't interpret the JOIN condition, it only checks if the rows satisfy the given condition.

To refer to a column in the JOIN query, you have to use the full column name: first the table name, then a dot (.) and the column name:

ON cat.cat_id = toy.cat_id

You can omit the table name and use just the column name if the name of the column is unique within all columns in the joined tables.

NATURAL JOIN

If the tables have columns with **the same name**, you can use NATURAL JOIN instead of JOIN.

SELECT *
FROM toy
NATURAL JOIN cat;

cat_id	toy_id	toy_name	cat_name
1	5	ball	Kitty
1	3	mouse	Kitty
3	1	ball	Sam
4	4	mouse	Misty

The common column appears only once in the result table.

Note: NATURAL JOIN is rarely used in real life.

LEFT JOIN

LEFT JOIN returns all rows from the **left table** with matching rows from the right table. Rows without a match are filled with NULLs. LEFT JOIN is also called LEFT OUTER JOIN.

SELECT *
FROM toy
LEFT JOIN cat
 ON toy.cat_id = cat.cat_id;

toy_id	toy_name	cat_id	cat_id	cat_name
5	ball	1	1	Kitty
3	mouse	1	1	Kitty
1	ball	3	3	Sam
4	mouse	4	4	Misty
2	spring	NULL	NULL	NULL
	whole left table			

RIGHT JOIN

RIGHT JOIN returns all rows from the **right table** with matching rows from the left table. Rows without a match are filled with NULLs. RIGHT JOIN is also called RIGHT OUTER JOIN.

SELECT *
FROM toy
RIGHT JOIN cat
ON toy.cat_id = cat.cat_id;

toy_id	toy_name	cat_id	cat_id	cat_name
5	ball	1	1	Kitty
3	mouse	1	1	Kitty
NULL	NULL	NULL	2	Hugo
1	ball	3	3	Sam
4	mouse	4	4	Misty
		whole ri	ght table	

FULL JOIN

FULL JOIN returns all rows from the **left table** and all rows from the **right table**. It fills the non-matching rows with NULLS. FULL JOIN is also called FULL OUTER JOIN.

SELECT *
FROM toy
FULL JOIN cat
 ON toy.cat_id = cat.cat_id;

toy_id	toy_name	cat_id	cat_id	cat_name
5	ball	1	1	Kitty
3	mouse	1	1	Kitty
NULL	NULL	NULL	2	Hugo
1	ball	3	3	Sam
4	mouse	4	4	Misty
2	spring	NULL	NULL	NULL
	whole left table	whole ri	ght table	

CROSS JOIN

CROSS JOIN returns all possible combinations of rows from the left and right tables.

SELECT *
FROM toy
CROSS JOIN cat;
Othersyntax:
SELECT *
FROM toy, cat;

toy_id	toy_name	cat_id	cat_id	cat_name
1	ball	3	1	Kitty
2	spring	NULL	1	Kitty
3	mouse	1	1	Kitty
4	mouse	4	1	Kitty
5	ball	1	1	Kitty
1	ball	3	2	Hugo
2	spring	NULL	2	Hugo
3	mouse	1	2	Hugo
4	mouse	4	2	Hugo
5	ball	1	2	Hugo
1	ball	3	3	Sam
• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •

SQL JOINs Cheat Sheet

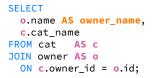
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COLUMN AND TABLE ALIASES

Aliases give a temporary name to a **table** or a **column** in a table.

CAT AS c				OWNER AS	0
cat_id	cat_name	mom_id	owner_id	id	name
1	Kitty	5	1	1	John Smith
2	Hugo	1	2	2	Danielle Davi
3	Sam	2	2		
4	Mistv	1	NULL		

A column alias renames a column in the result. A table alias renames a table within the query. If you define a table alias, you must use it instead of the table name everywhere in the query. The AS keyword is optional in defining aliases.



cat_name	owner_name
Kitty	John Smith
Sam	Danielle Davis
Hugo	Danielle Davis
_	

SELF JOIN

You can join a table to itself, for example, to show a parent-child relationship.

CAT AS child				CAT AS mom				
cat_id	cat_name	owner_id	mom_id		cat_id	cat_name	owner_id	mom_id
1	Kitty	1	5		1	Kitty	1	5
2	Hugo	2	1		2	Hugo	2	1
3	Sam	2	2		3	Sam	2	2
4	Misty	NULL	1		4	Misty	NULL	1

Each occurrence of the table must be given a different alias. Each column reference must be preceded with an appropriate table alias.

```
SELECT
  child.cat_name AS child_name,
  mom.cat_name AS mom_name
FROM cat AS child
JOIN cat AS mom
  ON child.mom_id = mom.cat_id;
```

child_name	mom_name
Hugo	Kitty
Sam	Hugo
Misty	Kitty
-	-

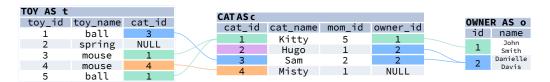
NON-EQUI SELF JOIN

You can use a non-equality in the ON condition, for example, to show all different pairs of rows.

TOY AS a				TOY AS b		
toy_id	toy_name	cat_id		cat_id	toy_id	toy_name
3	mouse	1		1	3	mouse
5	ball	1		1	5	ball
1	ball	3		3	1	ball
4	mouse	4		4	4	mouse
2	spring	NULL		NULL	2	spring
CELECT						
SELECT			cat_a_id	toy_a	cat_b_id	toy_b
a.toy_n	name AS to	y_a,	1	mouse	3	ball
b.toy_n	ame AS to	y_b	1	ball	3	ball
FROM toy a			1	mouse	4	mouse
JOIN toy			1	ball	4	mouse
	at_id < b.	cat_id;	3	ball	4	mouse

MULTIPLE JOINS

You can join more than two tables together. First, two tables are joined, then the third table is joined to the result of the previous joining.



JOIN & JOIN

SELECT

JOIN & LEFT JOIN SELECT t.toy_name, c.cat_name, c.name AS owner_name FROM toy t JOIN cat c ON t.cat_id = c.cat_id LEFT JOIN owner o ON c.owner_id = o.id; toy_name cat_name owner_name

<pre>ON c.owner_id = o.id;</pre>				
toy_name cat_name owner_name				
ball	Kitty	John Smith		
mouse	Kitty	John Smith		
ball	Sam	Danielle Davis		
mouse	Misty	NULL		

LEFT JOIN & LEFT JOIN

SELECT
t.toy_name,
<pre>c.cat_name,</pre>
o.name AS owner_name
FROM toy t
LEFT JOIN cat c
<pre>ON t.cat_id = c.cat_id</pre>
LEFT JOIN owner o
<pre>ON c.owner_id = o.id;</pre>

	_	,
toy_name	cat_name	owner_name
ball	Kitty	John Smith
mouse	Kitty	John Smith
ball	Sam	Danielle Davis
mouse	Misty	NULL
spring	NULL	NULL

JOIN WITH MULTIPLE CONDITIONS

You can use multiple JOIN conditions using the ON keyword once and the AND keywords as many times as you need.

CAT AS c					OWNER	R AS o	
cat_id	cat_name	mom_id	owner_id	age	id	name	age
1	Kitty	5	1	17	1	John Smith	18
2	Hugo	1	2	10	2	Danielle Davis	10
3	Sam	2	2	5			
4	Misty	1	NULL	11			

SELECT

cat_name,
 o.name AS owner_name,
 c.age AS cat_age,
 o.age AS owner_age
FROM cat c
JOIN owner o
 ON c.owner_id = o.id
AND c.age < o.age;</pre>

cat_name	owner_name	age	age
Kitty	John Smith	17	18
Sam	Danielle Davis	5	10