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Assignment 06

# SQL VIEWS

## Introduction

An SQL View is a customized, pre-established query command, which is often easier for users to execute than a Select statement. The View is kept in the database dictionary, so the user will get fresh data from the tables when they execute the View.

## When to use a SQL View

A View provides an abstraction layer, so external data users can query without having direct access to the tables. That way, external users can use a View to access the tables in an indirect fashion.

An SQL layman can execute a View that automatically produces a pre-defined, complicated set of selections without having much knowledge of the SQL language.

Views are also helpful when a user just doesn’t want to have to re-script a complicated select statement. Especially if they need to use that View frequently.

## The Differences and Similarities between a View, Function and a Stored Procedure

Views, Functions, and Stored procedures are all ways to save select statements. Here’s how they are different:

* Views:
  + Selects data
  + Gives results from a pre-established set of query commands
* Functions:
  + Returns a table, or
  + Returns a single value
* Stored Procedure
  + Names a set of SQL statements
  + Actively performs actions and returns results.
  + Executes code, so you don’t select from it like a table. (e.g. you cannot select from a Stored Procedure.)

## Conclusion

SQL Views are helpful to pre-form multiple query instructions. A craftsperson can create a view so someone with limited knowledge of SQL can pull a complicated query. The view can limit their visibility to only certain non-sensitive data.