Validation Commands

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What This Module Covers

Commands that verify integrity of data and ensure the database is structurally consistent

What This Module Does Not Cover

The group of commands including, and related to, DBCC CHECKDB:

- DBCC CHECKALLOC
- DBCC CHECKCATALOG
- DBCC CHECKTABLE
- DBCC CHECKFILEGROUP

Please see Paul Randal's Pluralsight courses for detailed coverage:

- *SQL Server: Detecting and Correcting Database Corruption*
- *SQL Server: Advanced Corruption Recovery Techniques*

DBCC CHECKCONSTRAINTS

- Checks either a single constraint, all constraints for a table, or all constraints in a database (e.g. foreign keys, check)
- This command should be run any time REPAIR is run against a database
- If invalid data is found, it will not be fixed
  - It will be reported in the output

DBCC CHECKCONSTRAINTS

This command can affect performance depending on the size of the constraint, table, or database

- For more information, see my post *A Look at DBCC CHECKCONSTRAINTS and I/O* at http://bit.ly/1ksyoKA

Requires sysadmin or db_owner

DBCC CHECKIDENT

- Checks the current value for an identity column, and can be used to reseed the value
- Requires sysadmin, db_owner, or db_ddladmin role, or table ownership

DBCC CHECKIDENT

Executing this command will have minimal impact on performance, however, it *can* change the current seed value if you're not careful

For more information, see my post *The Nuance of DBCC CHECKIDENT That Drives Me Crazy* at http://bit.ly/1BuRbih

Using Validation Commands

Consider running DBCC CHECKCONSTRAINTS during off-peak times to minimize resource use

Always DBCC CHECKCONSTRAINTS after REPAIR has been executed against a database

Include the NORESEED option by default when running DBCC CHECKIDENT, to avoid accidentally changing the current seed value

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