Written by Administrator

Thursday, 11 December 2008 13:55 - Last Updated Thursday, 11 December 2008 13:58

SQL Server DBA Backup and Recovery Interview Questions

Written By: Edgewood Solutions Engineers -- 6/11/2008 -- 0 comments Get our newsletter!

Problem

If you are preparing for a SQL Server DBA interview as the interviewer or interviewee, today's tip should offer value to you. This tip has interview style questions graded as either easy, moderate or advanced related to backup and recovery. To help gauge your skills, the question is available to read, but the answer is intentionally hidden. Once you have thought about your answer, highlight the answer and see how you have done. Good luck!

Solution

Question Difficulty = Easy

- **Question 1:** How does the database recovery model impact database backups?
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- Selecting the database recovery model to ensure proper backups
- SQL Server point in time recovery

- **Question 2:** True or False - The native SQL Server 2005 backups are in clear text.
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- SQL Server 2005 Backup Product Options
- Implementing Transparent Data Encryption in SQL Server 2008
- Encrypt and safeguard your SQL Server database backups

- **Question 3**: How can I verify that backups are occurring on a daily basis?
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- [Do you really know if your SQL Server database backups are successful?](#)

- **Question 4:** How do you know if your database backups are restorable?
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- [Automating the SQL Server RESTORE VERIFYONLY Process with Maintenance Tasks](#)

- **Question 5:** From a best practices perspective, what is your backup retention policy?
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- [SQL Server Database Backup Retention Periods](#)

Question Difficulty = Moderate

- **Question 1:** What are some common reasons why database restores fail?
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- [Getting exclusive access to restore SQL Server databases](#)

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- **Question 2:** How can you be notified if a native SQL Server database backup or restore fails via the native tools?

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- [SQL Server Database Backup and Restore Failure Notifications](#)

- **Question 3**: True or False - All successful SQL Server backup entries can be prevented from writing to the SQL Server Error Log by a single trace flag.

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- [How to stop logging all successful backups in your SQL Server error logs](#)

- **Question 4:** What are some common post restore processes?

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- [SQL Server 2000 Database Restores Mapping Users to Logins](#)

- **Question 5:** Explain how you could automate the backup and restore process?

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- [Simple script to backup all SQL Server databases](#)
- [Auto generate SQL Server database restore scripts](#)

SQL Server DBA Backup and Recovery Interview Question

Question Difficulty = Difficult

- **Question 1:** What is the database that has the backup and restore system tables? What are the backup and restore system tables? What do each of the tables do?
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- [Auto generate SQL Server database restore scripts](#)

- **Question 2:** For differential backups, how is the data determined for those backups?
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- [Differential Database Backups for SQL Server](#)

- **Question 3**: How can full backups be issued without interrupting the LSN's?
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- [COPY_ONLY Backups with SQL Server 2005](#)

- **Question 4:** How is a point in time recovery performed?
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Question Difficulty = Difficult

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- [SQL Server point in time recovery](#)

- **Question 5:** What are your recommendations to design a backup and recovery solution?
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- [SQL Server Backup Checklist](#)

Next Steps

- As you prepare for an upcoming SQL Server DBA technical interview, review the SQL Server interview questions in this tip as a means to prepare for the technical portion of the interview.
- As you continue to prepare for the interview, check out all of the [MSSQLTips.com Interview Question tips](#)   .
- Stay tuned for future SQL Server interview questions related to core SQL Server features. If you have some key interview questions related to backup and recovery that you always

include in your interview process, please share your knowledge with the community by posting the questions in the forum below.