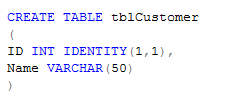
All About Identity Column

In this article I will try to cover everything about an identity column in a table. The key points of this article will be,

1. What is identity column and why we need this.
2. How to create an identity column.
3. Supply explicit value for an identity column.
4. Reset the value of identity column.

Let’s start,

1. **What is identity column and why we need this**: An identity column is a column that got incremented automatically whenever we insert a new record in our table, like at the time of registration we never ask customer to provide customer id. We want SQL to calculate customer id and add new customer id by its own at the time to every registration, in that case we mark an id column as an identity column. By default, we can’t pass a value for and identity column, the SQL is responsible to do calculation of the value for this column and provide value for this column behind the scene.
2. **How to create an identity column:** We have 2 ways to create an identity column,
3. Using SQL command: We can create an identity column using SQL command like,



Here we are creating a table called tblCustomer and marking a column “ID” as an identity and specifying seed and increment value for this column. Seed value is a value from where we want to start our identity column and second one is increment value, that value specifies that what will be the next increment value.

1. Using SQL GUI: SQL Management Studio provides a GUI to create an Identity column like,