

Search...

# SQL Operators

Last Updated : 07 Apr, 2025

SQL operators are important in **database management systems** (DBMS) as they allow us to manipulate and retrieve data efficiently. Operators in SQL perform arithmetic, **logical**, comparison, **bitwise**, and other operations to work with database values. Understanding SQL operators is crucial for performing complex data manipulations, calculations, and filtering operations in queries.

In this guide, we'll explain the different types of SQL operators, including **arithmetic operators**, comparison operators, **logical operators**, bitwise operators, and more. We'll provide clear examples to demonstrate how they work, helping you optimize your SQL queries for better performance and accuracy.

## Operators in SQL

SQL operators are **symbols** or **keywords** used to perform operations on data in SQL queries. These operations can include **mathematical calculations**, **data comparisons**, **logical manipulations**, other data-processing tasks. Operators help in filtering, calculating, and updating data in databases, making them crucial for query optimization and accurate data management.

## Types of SQL Operators

SQL operators can be categorized based on the type of operation they perform. Here are the primary types of SQL operators:

We use cookies to ensure you have the best browsing experience on our website.

- **Bitwise Operators**
- **Compound Operators**
- **Special Operators**

Each of these operators is essential for performing different types of operations on data in SQL databases.

## SQL Arithmetic Operators

**Arithmetic operators** in [SQL](#) are used to perform mathematical operations on numeric data types in SQL queries. Some common [arithmetic operators](#):

Operator	Description
+	The addition is used to perform an addition operation on the data values.
-	This operator is used for the subtraction of the data values.
/	This operator works with the 'ALL' keyword and it calculates division operations.
*	This operator is used for multiplying data values.
%	Modulus is used to get the remainder when data is divided by another.

### Example: Arithmetic Operations

We use cookies to ensure you have the best browsing experience on our website.

```
SELECT emp_salary, emp_salary * 1.05 AS "Revised Salary" FROM  
employee;
```

## Output:

emp_salary	Revised Salary
50000	52500
60000	63000
45000	47250

*Arithmetic Operation Example*

## SQL Comparison Operators

**Comparison Operators** in SQL are used to compare one expression's value to other expressions. SQL supports different types of [comparison](#) operator, which are described below:

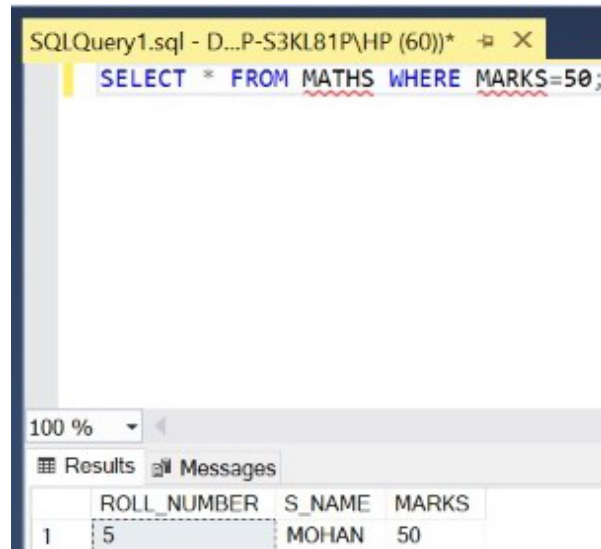
Operator	Description
=	Equal to.
>	Greater than.
<	Less than.
>=	Greater than equal to.
<=	Less than equal to.
<>	Not equal to.

### Example: Comparison Operation

We use cookies to ensure you have the best browsing experience on our website.

**Query:**

```
SELECT * FROM MATHS WHERE MARKS=50;
```

**Output:**

## SQL Logical Operators

**Logical Operators** in SQL are used to combine or manipulate conditions in SQL queries to retrieve or manipulate data based on specified criteria..

Operator	Description
<u>AND</u>	Logical AND compares two Booleans as expressions and returns true when both expressions are true.
<u>OR</u>	Logical OR compares two Booleans as expressions and returns true when one of the expressions is true.
<u>NOT</u>	Not takes a single Boolean as an argument and change its value from false to true or from true to false.

We use cookies to ensure you have the best browsing experience on our website.

In this example, retrieve all records from the “employee” table where the “**emp\_city**” column is equal to ‘**Allahabad**’ and the “emp\_country” column is equal to ‘India’.

### Query:

```
SELECT * FROM employee WHERE emp_city =  
'Allahabad' AND emp_country = 'India';
```

### Output:

Results		Messages		
	emp_id	emp_name	emp_city	emp_country
1	104	Utkarsh Singh	Allahabad	India
2	105	Sudhanshu Yadav	Allahabad	India

## SQL Bitwise Operators

**Bitwise operators** in SQL are used to perform bitwise operations on binary values in SQL queries, manipulating individual bits to perform logical operations at the bit level. Some **SQL Bitwise Operators** are:

Operator	Description
&	Bitwise AND operator
	Bitwise OR operator
^	Bitwise XOR (exclusive OR) operator
~	Bitwise NOT (complement) operator
<<	Left shift operator

We use cookies to ensure you have the best browsing experience on our website.

## SQL Compound Operators

Compound operators combine an operation with assignment. These operators modify the value of a column and store the result in the same column in a single step. Some Compound operators are:

Operator	Description
+=	Add and assign
-=	Subtract and assign
*=	Multiply and assign
/=	Divide and assign
%=	Modulo and assign
&=	Bitwise AND and assign
^=	Bitwise XOR and assign
=	Bitwise OR and assign

## SQL Special Operators

SQL also provides several special operators that serve specific functions such as filtering data based on a range, checking for existence, and comparing sets of values.

We use cookies to ensure you have the best browsing experience on our website.

Operators	Description
<u><a href="#">ALL</a></u>	ALL is used to select all records of a SELECT STATEMENT. It compares a value to every value in a list of results from a query. The ALL must be preceded by the comparison operators and evaluated to TRUE if the query returns no rows.
<u><a href="#">ANY</a></u>	ANY compares a value to each value in a list of results from a query and evaluates to true if the result of an inner query contains at least one row.
<u><a href="#">BETWEEN</a></u>	The SQL BETWEEN operator tests an expression against a range. The range consists of a beginning, followed by an AND keyword and an end expression.
<u><a href="#">IN</a></u>	The IN operator checks a value within a set of values separated by commas and retrieves the rows from the table that match.
<u><a href="#">EXISTS</a></u>	The EXISTS checks the existence of a result of a subquery. The EXISTS subquery tests whether a subquery fetches at least one row. When no data is returned then this operator returns 'FALSE'.
<u><a href="#">SOME</a></u>	SOME operator evaluates the condition between the outer and inner tables and evaluates to true if the final result returns any one row. If not, then it evaluates to false.
<u><a href="#">UNIQUE</a></u>	The UNIQUE operator searches every unique row of a

We use cookies to ensure you have the best browsing experience on our website.

## Example: Special Operator (BETWEEN)

In this example, we will retrieve all records from the “employee” table where the “emp\_id” column has a value that falls within the range of 101 to 104 (inclusive).

### Query:

```
SELECT * FROM employee WHERE emp_id BETWEEN 101 AND 104;
```

### Output:

Results		Messages		
	emp_id	emp_name	emp_city	emp_country
1	101	Utkarsh Tripathi	Varanasi	India
2	102	Abhinav Singh	Varanasi	India
3	103	Utkarsh Raghuvanshi	Varanasi	India
4	104	Utkarsh Singh	Allahabad	India

## Conclusion

SQL operators are essential tools for working with data in a **relational database**. Whether you’re performing **arithmetic operations**, **logical comparisons**, bitwise manipulations, or using special operators to filter data, understanding these operators is key to writing efficient and effective [SQL queries](#). By mastering SQL operators, we can simplify complex data operations, enhance query performance, and manipulate data more effectively. Whether you’re a beginner or an advanced SQL user, the knowledge of operators will help you unlock the full potential of SQL queries and [database](#) management systems.