- The SQL Language has been around and used heavily for almost 40 years
- The SQL Language has gone through some changes over the years
- Different software companies customize their implementation of SQL to provide more usability for their database customers

We recently talked about different RDBMS software products, such as

- IBM DB2
- Oracle
- MySQL
- Microsoft SQL Server
- PostgreSQL

- Each of these vendors maintains their own unique SQL language syntax and command set
- They are NOT all the same
- We will be using PostgreSQL in this class

- From one DBMS to another, SQL is pretty much the same, but there are some differences
- As you learn SQL, it is important for you to understand whose version of SQL you are learning, and how it might different from other versions

Examples:

| Language Component | Microsoft SQL Server | MySQL | PostgreSQL | SQLite |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | |
| Data is Case Sensitive ** | Yes. WHERE NAME = | No. WHERE NAME = | Yes. WHERE NAME = | Yes. WHERE NAME = |
| | 'Tom' and WHERE | 'Tom' and WHERE | 'Tom' and WHERE | 'Tom' and WHERE |
| | NAME = 'tom' are NOT | NAME = 'tom' are the | NAME = 'tom' are NOT | NAME = 'tom' are NOT |
| | the same | same | the same | the same |
| Quotation Marks ** | | NAME = 'Tom' or | | NAME = 'Tom' or |
| | NAME = 'Tom' (only) | NAME = "Tom" | NAME = 'Tom' (only) | NAME = "Tom" |
| Column Name Alias | SELECT SUM(column | SELECT SUM(column | SELECT SUM(column | SELECT SUM(column |
| | name)=total | name) AS total | name) AS total | name) AS total |

^{**} also depends on the SQL Compiler

More Examples:

- TOP versus LIMIT and ORDER BY
- TRIGGERS before, after, instead of, etc.
- ISNULL function
- CHECK constraint
- Concatenation
- Handling DATEs

As we move forward

- I will teach the SQL-92 standard
- We will practice using the PostgreSQL implementation of SQL using bit.io as our compiler and test environment
- I will try to point out non-standard syntax differences that come up

Who Cares?

Why should YOU care?

 If you write code for one DBMS platform, and then your organization changes your DBMS platform, you will probably have to rewrite and retest your SQL code