

STUDY GUIDE

MODIFYING TEXT QUERIES WITH STRING FUNCTIONS

String functions

String functions do not make any permanent changes to the database. The changes they show only exist in the results of the current query.

- If more than one function needs to be performed on the text (e.g., CAST and CONCAT), they must be done in the same query via nesting.
 - Nesting is the process of writing one function inside another for functions that need to be performed in the same query.
- UPPER
 - The UPPER function asks SQL to use uppercase letters.
 - Syntax: UPPER (field1)
- CONCATENATE and CAST
 - The concatenate function allows you to combine (or link) different value types together.
 - Syntax is: CONCAT(field1, field2, field3...)
 - With this function, you also have to tell SQL what to name the new field using an AS statement
 - To concatenate two columns together, they must be the same data type — numbers or text. If they are not, use CAST to convert integers to text.
 - Data types will vary based on the type and version of each SQL database.
- LEN
 - LEN is the length function.
 - The syntax is: WHERE LEN(columnname) = desiredlength
- REPLACE
 - To clean up messy data, use the REPLACE function to replace unnecessary characters like ! and & with spaces.
 - The syntax is: REPLACE(source, oldtext, newtext)