

Querying with SQL

Useful tools in SQL

Useful tools

Often, SQL result sets are made to examine a subset of data. Here are two handy tools we can use to make them readable, and save results for future use.

We often draw upon different databases and tables which may have complex column names. The SQL keyword **AS** is a handy tool to rename columns in a query **result**.

At times, it is useful to save results so we can access them later. **INSERT INTO** can be used to save a query as well. Instead of specifying **VALUES**, we use a query.

Aliasing

Aliasing is a technique that uses the **AS** keyword to **temporarily rename** a table or column in a query for simplification and readability.

Syntax: SELECT col_name_in_db AS new_col_name FROM db.table;



Aliasing

You cannot rename a column with AS and use (the alias in a WHERE clause.



AS creates an alias or shortcut name for a column in a SQL results set. Renaming columns in a results set makes the table more readable.

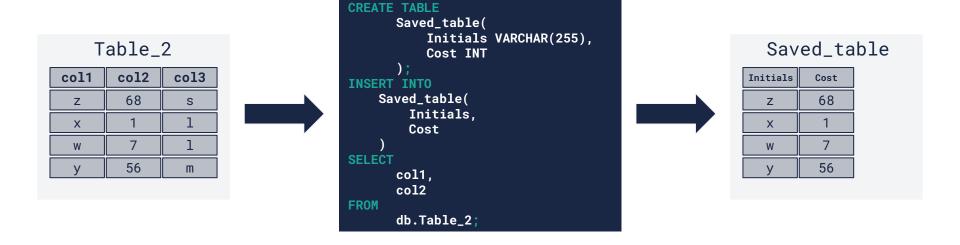
Always choose **descriptive names** such as *first_name*, *last_name* instead of *name*, and *is_subscribed* instead of *sub*.



Saving a results set in a table

To save useful results as a table, we can use **INSERT INTO** to save the results of a query to an **existing** table.

Syntax: INSERT INTO table_name(col_name(s)) SELECT col(s) FROM db_name.table_name;



Saving a results set in a table

This involves three steps:

