25 Best SQL Tools | Database Software & IDE (2021 Update)

There are many SQL management tools available in the market, and therefore it is challenging to select the best tool for your SQL project management. The following is a curated list of best SQL tools with key features, and download links. The list contains both open-source (FREE) and commercial (Paid) SQL software.

1) DBVisualizer

DBVisualizer is a universal database tool for developers, analysts and database administrators that runs on all major operating systems. It provides features to write SQL to query and visualize your data. Design and development features to manage your databases, tables, relations, indexes, triggers, users and much more.

Features:

- Runs on Windows, Linux, and macOS
- Flexible user interface in light and dark themes
- Simple navigation of database objects and their properties
- Visual rendering of primary/foreign keys
- Table data editing in spreadsheet with Export and import database schema
- Query optimization with an explain plan feature
- Visual query builder using drag and drop
- Flexible SQL scripts execution with parameter support
- SQL formatting and Command-line interface for headless execution

More Information >>

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2) Aqua Data Studio

Aqua Data Studio is a versatile database IDE with data management and visual analytics for relational, cloud, and NoSQL databases. It enables data professionals to use a single database tool to manage many tasks for numerous data sources.

⸸ AQUAFOLD

- Easily develop, execute, and share SQL statements
- View, filter, and edit query results in Excel-like grid with copy-and-paste
- Reverse-engineer databases into entity relationship diagram
- Connect to 40+ data sources including: Microsoft SQL Server, Snowflake, Cassandra, Oracle Database, SQLite, MongoDB, IBM Db2, Sybase, Teradata, Hive, MySQL, PostgreSQL

More Information >>

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3) ManageEngine Applications Manager

ManageEngine Applications Manager is a powerful SQL database monitoring system that supports all versions of Microsoft SQL databases.

ManageEngine
Applications Manager

Features:

- Real-time monitoring of SQL server's KPIs, queries with granular data.
- Exhaustive details on queries that increase latency and load on server.
- Code-level diagnostics for queries that are invoked in web applications.
- Intelligent fault management helps you pinpoint root cause of faults to reduce MTTR.
- Automatic corrective actions can be performed.
- Notifications can be sent via email and SMS, and push notifications to mobile devices.
- Advanced analytical and capacity planning reports to aid in decisions regarding resource usage.
- Customizable reports and dashboards.

4) dbWatch

dbWatch is a complete database monitoring/management solution for SQL Server, Oracle, PostgreSQL, Sybase, MySQL and Azure. Designed for proactive management and automation of routine maintenance in large scale on-premise, hybrid/cloud database environments.

Features:

- Monitor and manage SQLServer, Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL and Sybase, on the same view
- Simplifies database farm monitoring/management
- Performance monitoring & health reports

- User defined dashboards and global views
- Enterprise performance views package
- Automate database maintenance
- Customize performance checks
- Multi-site and Database Cluster support
- Autodiscover databases within your network
- Bulk install database servers
- Reports Management generate reports using templates
- Customizable report templates
- Alerts Notifications thru emails/sms

More Information >>

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5) Database Performance Analyzer

SolarWinds Database Performance Analyzer is performance monitoring and analysis tool for database admin. It also finds the reason of bottlenecks and reduces the overall cost of database operations.

Features:

- Monitor capacity constraints, queries, and server health performance
- Expert database and SQL query tuning advisors
- Quickly find the cause of complex problems
- Identify database problems in real-time
- Cross-vendor database support from a single interface
- Low overhead on monitored databases
- Blocking and Deadlock analysis
- Analyze every factor that impacts SQL Server execution
- Monitors database in hybrid environments, on-premises, virtualized, and in the cloud

- Helps proactively tune queries so applications can respond faster

More Information >>

6) **Entity Framework Profiler**

The Entity Framework Profiler is a real time visual-debugger that optimizes how your application works with its data by identifying over a dozen suspicious behaviors from your application's interaction with your relational database. You can run your profiler in live mode, as part of a development session or as part of your Continuous Integration routine. In real-time, you are alerted to queries that are costing too much with alerts and recommendations.

Entity Framework Profiler

- Alerts you to data queries that cost too much time and money
- Pinpoints poorly built data queries to the exact line of code and provides links to the location inside your application
- New easy to use UI makes everything crystal clear and easy to navigate
- Elite support for Async/Await usage
- Full .NET Core and .NET Framework support
- Available for a 30-day trial

More Information >>

7) **Server Configuration Monitor**

Server Configuration Monitor is a tool to detect and compare configuration changes to the server, applications, and databases. It allows you to configure applications and servers in real time.

Features:

- The tool provides alerts and reports on deviations.
- You can compare the current configuration with previous versions.
- It allows you to track server software and hardware inventory.
- This app can be used to monitor output changes.
- It can be integrated with Orion platform (bandwidth performance and fault management tool)

8) Database Migration ToolKit

Database Migration ToolKit is a SQL database tool that helps you to migrate your database content. It supports database formats like MySQL, Oracle, MariaDB, SQL Server, etc.

Features:

- You can migrate data without writing any script.
- It enables you to transfer your data, structure, objects, and more.
- The software automatically converts various data encoding.
- Supports character sets like UTF8 and CP1250.
- The tool allows you to filter the data according to your customization need.

- It offers more than 26 migration methods.

More Information >>

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9) Jet Profiler for MySQL

Jet Profiler for MySQL is a real-time query performance and diagnostics tool for the MySQL database server. The tool is developed since 2009 and is highly stable

Jet Profiler
for MySQL

Features:

- Query, table and user performance
- Graphical visualisation
- Low overhead
- User friendly

More Information >>

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10) EMS SQL Manager:

EMS SQL Manager allows users to create and edit SQL Server database objects and create, modify, execute and save SQL queries.

Features:

- Full support of PostgreSQL
- Visual and text tools for query building

- Rapid database management and navigation
- Advanced tool for data manipulation
- Effective security management
- Impressive data export and import capabilities
- Powerful visual database designer
- Easy-to-use wizards performing PostgreSQL maintenance tasks
- Access to PostgreSQL Server through HTTP protocol
- Database change management

More Information >>

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11) Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio Express

SQL Server Management Studio Express is an open source tool for accessing, managing and developing all components of SQL. This tool supports most administrative tasks for SQL Server.

Features:

- A single, integrated environment for SQL Server Database Engine management and authoring
- It allows users to send them to a Code Editor, or script them for later execution.
- Non-modal and resizable dialogs help users to access to multiple tools while a dialog is open
- A common scheduling dialog that allows users to perform the action of the management dialogs at a later time
- Exporting and importing SQL Server Management Studio
- Save or print XML Deadlock and Showplan files automatically created by SQL Server
- A tutorial on SQL Server Management Studio to help users to take advantage of the many new features to become more productive right away
- A new activity monitor with filtering and automatic refresh

- Integrated Database Mail interfaces
- An integrated Web browser for browsing of online or MSDN help
- Integration of Help from online communities
- A new error and informational message box which provide more information. It also allows users to send e-mail and messages to the support team

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12) Adminer

Adminer is a SQL management client tool for managing databases, tables, relations, indexes, users. It is one of the best SQL tools which has support for all the popular database management systems like MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQLite, MS SQL, Oracle, and MongoDB.

Features:

- Connect with database server with username and password
- Option for selecting existing database or create a new one
- Allows modification of the name, type, collation, comment and default values of columns
- Add and drop tables and columns. Supports all data types, blobs through file transfer
- Display users and rights and change them. Display variables with links to documentation
- Manage events and table partitions
- Extensive customization options

Download link: https://www.adminer.org/en/editor/

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13) DBComparer:

It is a SQL management mssql GUI tool for analysing the differences in Microsoft SQL Server database structures. It allows comparing database objects like tables, columns, indexes, foreign keys, schemas, etc.

Features:

- Comparing and synchronizing databases on different servers as well as on a single server
- Using the Console Application
- Support for working with many projects simultaneously
- Plenty of options for comparison and synchronization
- Built-in SQL Script editor with syntax highlight
- New state-of-the-art graphical user interface
- Latest SQL Server version support

Download link: http://dbcomparer.com/Download/Default.aspx

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14) SQuirrel SQL:

It is a JAVA-based database administration tool. This JDBC compliant SQL management tool allows users to view the database structure and issue SQL commands. It also supports databases such as Firebird, Microsoft Access, Microsoft SQL Server, MySQL, Oracle, Sybase, etc.

Features:

- Quickly view and edit data in any JDBC-compliant database
- Allows to view the database's metadata
- Work with multiple databases on local and remote machines
- This SQL tool uses a single interface to work with various database engines

Download link: http://squirrel-sql.sourceforge.net/

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15) SQLite Database Browser:

SQLite Database Browser is an open source SQL tool that allows users to create, design and edits SQLite database files. It is one of the best SQL programs which lets users show a log of all the SQL commands that have been issued by them and by the application itself.

Features:

- Create and delete indexes
- Browse, edit, add and delete records
- Import and export records as text
- Import and export tables from CSV files
- It Import and export databases from SQL dump files
- Examine a log of all SQL commands issued by the application

Download link: http://sqlitebrowser.org/

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16) DBeaver:

DBeaver is an open source database tool for developers and database administrators. It offers supports for JDBC compliant databases such as MySQL, Oracle, IBM DB2, SQL Server, Firebird, SQLite, and Sybase.

Feature:

- It is free and open source tool
- This SQL software allows to browse and change database metadata, tables, keys and indexes and column.
- It's SQL editor includes auto-formatting, auto-completion, and hyperlinks
- This free SQL query tool allows searching database objects like tables, columns, constraints, and procedures

Download link: http://dbeaver.jkiss.org/download/

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17) HeidiSQL:

HeidiSQL is another reliable SQL management tool. It is designed using the popular MySQL server, Microsoft SQL databases, and PostgreSQL. It allows users to browse and edit data, create and edit tables, views, triggers and scheduled events.

Features:

- It's free and open source tool
- This database IDE allows to connect to multiple servers in one window
- Create and modify tables, views, stored routines and scheduled events.
- Export from one server database into another server
- This SQL application helps you to manage user privileges
- Browse and edit table data using a comfortable grid
- Monitor and kill client-processes

- Repair and Optimize tables in a batch manner

Download link: https://www.heidisql.com/download.php

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18) FlySpeed SQL Query:

FlySpeed SQL Query is data handling tool for all database users and developers. It is one of the best SQL IDE that allows users to build queries on different database servers without any deep knowledge of SQL syntax.

Features:

- Get connected to various database servers natively or using ODBC
- Browse and modified data from tables and queries in the grid or using the customizable form view
- Instantly find, sort and filter data
- Analyse all the complex SQL queries by representing them visually
- Manage SQL queries via the professional editor with code completion and syntax highlighting
- Access your SQL query execution history and data browsing settings and saved between work sessions
- Export data to Excel, CSV, HTML and XML files

Download link: http://www.activedbsoft.com/download-querytool.html

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19) SQL Diagnostic Manager:

SQL diagnostic manager is a performance monitoring tool developed by Idera. It is one of the best SQL database tools that offers diagnostics solution that helps users to evaluate health and performance within their SQL Server.

Features:

- It offers easy installation and use

- Monitor performance for physical and virtual environments
- It analysis the entire SQL Server environment. It also gives notifications when performance or availability issues are discovered.
- Monitor queries and query plans to see the reasons of blocks and deadlocks.
- Stores data in the centralized SQL diagnostic manager repository
- View summary of top issues and alerts with the web console add-on
- Provides a comprehensive view of current performance
- Monitor application transactions with SQL Workload Analysis

Download link:
https://www.idera.com/productssolutions/sqlserver/sqldiagnosticmanager

20) Free SQL Performance Monitoring Tool:

Free SQL Performance Monitoring tool developed by ManageEngine. It is one of the best tool for SQL which allows users to keep an eye on SQL Server performance! This tool also helps users to monitor MS SQL Servers for performance and availability. It can use with all the MS SQL versions like MS SQL 2012 and 2014.

Features:

- Real time monitoring of MS SQL server performance
- Get instant alerts when resources like CPU, Disk, Memory, and SQL cache exceeds the threshold value
- View per second details of Deadlocks, Lock waits and Latch wait time
- View instant details about the active database connections

Download link: https://www.manageengine.com/download.html

21) ApexSQL Monitor:

ApexSQL Monitor is a web-based SQL management application. It is one of the best SQL software that provides support for monitoring multiple SQL Server instances.

Features:

- View system performance metrics
- Identify deadlocks and performance issues
- Use comprehensive dashboard for viewing metrics
- Analyze query waits and review query execution plans
- Calculate baselines and thresholds

Download Link: https://www.apexsql.com/Download.aspx?download=Monitor

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22) AppDynamics:

The AppDynamics Database management product for Microsoft SQL Server is a comprehensive SQL tool. It is one of the best SQL IDE used to monitor versions 2000, 2005, 2008, 2012 and 2014 of SQL Server.

Features:

- Deep visibility into SQL Server performance
- It is one of the best free database tools that allows viewing SQL Server instance objects
- Complete record of Historical SQL Server instance performance
- Comprehensive reporting of time series comparisons and top SQL reports

Download link: https://www.appdynamics.com/free-trial/

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23) Toad:

Toad is another SQL Server DBMS tool. It is one of the best IDE for SQL that maximizes productivity using extensive automation, intuitive workflows, and built-in expertise. This SQL management tool resolve issues, manage change and promote the highest levels of code quality.

Features:

- Access key data quickly for in-place analysis and single-click export to an Excel instance
- It can easily identify differences by comparing and syncing servers, data, and schemas.
- Roll back transactions directly from the transaction log without need to restore from a backup
- Get powerful query tuning capabilities
- Execute scripts and T-SQL snippets for numerous instances and servers
- Enable performance tuning with automated SQL scan and optimization
- Get free performance health checks benchmarked from the community
- Perform application performance tuning with automated query rewrites and optimization
- Automate repetitive processes like data and schema comparisons

Download link: https://www.toadworld.com/downloads

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24) ZenPacks

Zenoss offers ZenPacks for manage Microsoft SQL Server, My SQL, Oracle Database, and PostgreSQL. Each ZenPack has specific features of each platform, with the available APIs to determine what should be monitored.

Features:

- Open source and free of cost
- Monitor performance metrics for database instances
- Tables and disk space
- Collect events and forward back to the Zenoss console
- Map service impact relationships between components
- Report on database activity with the help of Zenoss Console

Download link:
https://www.zenoss.com/product/what-we-monitor/applications

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25) SQL Server Storage Manager:

Lepide's SQL Server storage manager is an open source utility to analyse the performance of SQL Servers. It provides complete visibility of storage space and performance.

Features:

- Eliminate the need to writing complex stored procedures
- It offers simple graphical displays showing all elements of SQL servers
- Provides a centralized platform to create consolidated reports of all SQL resources
- Give real time alerts based on easy to configure criteria
- Effectively track, manage and plan disk space for various SQL servers
- Identify issues with table partitioning, defragmentation, and indexes
- Decrease network traffic time by partitioning indexes, databases, and heaps
- This SQL query software provides extensive SQL reports
- Offers better visibility of databases, files and tables and more

Download link: https://www.lepide.com/sql-storage-manager/download.html

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26) Sequel Pro:

Sequel Pro is a fast, easy-to-use database management tool for working with MySQL. This SQL management tool helpful for interacting with your database. It is one of the best SQL database tools that allows easy to add new databases, add new tables, add new rows, and any other type of databases using this software.

Features:

- Open source SQL management software
- Easy and fast installation
- This SQL Editor provides support for cloud

- No Java required to run this program
- Multiple result sets
- SQLPro provides support all the major database types including MySQL, MariaDB, Microsoft SQL Server and Oracle 8i
- It is fast, easy-to-use Mac database management application for working with MySQL databases
- It gives you direct access to MySQL Databases on local and remote servers

Download link: https://www.sequelpro.com/

Best FREE SQL IDE / Database Management Software

Name	Platform	Link
DBVisualizer	Windows, Linux, and Mac	Learn More
Aqua Data Studio	Windows, Linux, Mac	Learn More
ManageEngine Applications Manager	Windows, Linux, Mac	Learn More
dbWatch	Windows, Linux	Learn More
SolarWinds Database Performance Analyzer	Windows, Mac	Learn More
Server Configuration Monitor	Windows, Linux	Learn More
Entity Framework Profiler	Windows, Linux, Unix	Learn More

ManageEngine Applications Manager	Windows, Linux	Learn More
Database Migration ToolKit	Windows	Learn More
Jet Profiler for MySQL	Windows, Linux, Mac	Learn More
EMS SQL Manager	Windows, Linux, Mac	Learn More
Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio Express	Windows	Learn More

FAQs

❓ What are Database Management Tools?

Database Management Tools or SQL Management Tools are software applications that help users to manage SQL server infrastructure. These SQL server tools allow users to configure, manage, monitor, and administer SQL servers and databases.

💻 Which are the best SQL Server Tools?

Here are some of the best SQL server tools:

- DBVisualizer
- SolarWinds Database Performance Analyzer
- dbForge Studio for SQL Server
- Entity Framework Profiler
- ManageEngine Applications Manager
- Database Migration Toolkit
- Jet Profiler for MySQL

- EMS SQL Manager
- Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio Express
- Squirrel SQL
- ApexSQL Monitor
- Toad

✅ How to choose the best Database Management Tool?

You should consider the following factors while choosing the best Database management software:

- Support for both structured and unstructured data types
- Security features
- Integration with other software
- Scalability
- Performance
- User Interface and Navigation
- Support for multiple OS and Frameworks
- Server Administration and Server reporting
- Customization features