

# Sql order by first, then next [duplicate]



2

This question already has an answer here:

[How do I order by multiple columns in a SELECT query?](#) 2 answers



I have a table something like



STUDENTNAME	ISMANUALLYADDED	ISEDITED
-----	-----	-----
APPLE	0	0
ANT	0	1
BELL	0	0
DOLL	1	0

here, I am trying to sort the data by `studentname` first, then by `ismanuallyadded` , then by `isedited` . I am expecting the result like

```
StudentName
-----
APPLE
BELL
DOLL
ANT
```

For this, am trying like,

```
select studentname from table1
order by studentname, ismanuallyadded, isedited
```

but, this query gives the result like,

```
Student
-----
APPLE
ANT
```

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is it possible to order by `studentname` first then order by `ismanuallyadded` .....

can any one help me out here, thanks in advance.

What am trying is, I should display all the studentnames(neither `manually added` nor `isedited` ) alphabatically, then only `ismanuallyadded` students should come, then `isedited` .

sql

sql-server-2008

edited Sep 23 '13 at 13:19

asked Sep 23 '13 at 13:10



shanish

1,009 10 29 58

**marked** as duplicate by [Kate Gregory](#), [Alex Paven](#), [TheHippo](#), [Godeke](#), [Ben S](#) Sep 23 '13 at 19:04

This question has been asked before and already has an answer. If those answers do not fully address your question, please [ask a new question](#).

2 Please explain the logic of the expected result. – [Martin Smith](#) Sep 23 '13 at 13:13

1 I think you're having a confusion: The first result is no ordered. There is NO ORDER on Sql queries except you specified. Your first query is a random order. Maybe is equal to the order of the data inserted, but it's just casual. The last query is ordered alphabetically, as you set with the order by.. – [Gonzalo.-](#) Sep 23 '13 at 13:14 ✎

2 You got your sort order wrong. What you're saying is: *Sort by studentname, and if two or more have the same studentname, sort by ismanuallyadded, and if two or have the same manuallyadded state, sort by isedited*. That doesn't match your desired result. – [user247702](#) Sep 23 '13 at 13:14

@MartinSmith I have updated my question. can you check that now – [shanish](#) Sep 23 '13 at 13:20

## 4 Answers

▲ The second criteria in the `order by` is only used when different rows have the same value in the previous criteria.

15

Your rows all have different `studentname` values, so the second and third criteria are never used.

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```
select studentname from table1
order by isedited, ismanuallyadded, studentname
```

edited May 31 '18 at 22:04

J. Tom  
38 4

answered Sep 23 '13 at 13:16

Joorge Leal  
440 4 8

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Thanks alot, this is working. – shanish Sep 23 '13 at 13:25

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1



The second field to sort by is only used when several entries are found with the same value in the first field. You don't have this case, so it should only sort by the first field (which should yield ANT before APPLE ...)

Your expected result would be achieved with the sort order  
order by isedited, ismanuallyadded, studentname

answered Sep 23 '13 at 13:21

Rene  
1,906 1 6 17

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thanks I got the solution. – shanish Sep 23 '13 at 13:25

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1



If you want the result you specify, you're ordeing by ismanuallyadded and **then** studentname, not the other way around.

select studentname from table1 order by ismanuallyadded, studentname, isedited.

Your current query says: order by studentname, then if studentname is the same for two rows, order by ismanuallyadded. You seem to want to say ismanuallyadded, then for all with the same ismanuallyadded status, give me those result ordered by studentname.

answered Sep 23 '13 at 13:14

Andrew Stubbs  
2,946 1 19 38

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thanks for ur response – [shanish](#) Sep 23 '13 at 13:26

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Try this

1

```
select studentname from table1
order by studentname ASC, ismanuallyadded ASC, isedited ASC
```



answered Sep 23 '13 at 13:13



[Ramesh Rajendran](#)

20.1k 22 92 165

thanks ramesh for ur response – [shanish](#) Sep 23 '13 at 13:27

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