

How to Delete using INNER JOIN with SQL Server?

▲ I want to delete using `INNER JOIN` in **SQL Server 2008**.

1085 But I get this error:



Msg 156, Level 15, State 1, Line 15
Incorrect syntax near the keyword 'INNER'.



154 My code:

```
DELETE FROM WorkRecord2
INNER JOIN Employee ON EmployeeRun=EmployeeNo
WHERE Company = '1' AND Date = '2013-05-06'
```

[sql](#)[sql-server](#)[sql-server-2008](#)[inner-join](#)[sql-delete](#)

edited May 15 '18 at 17:01



[Daniel Serodio](#)

2,718 2 29 32

asked May 10 '13 at 11:38



[nettoon493](#)

5,710 3 23 41

Example C in the [documentation](#) shows how to use `DELETE` with a join – [Pondlife](#) May 10 '13 at 14:22

15 Answers



You need to specify what table you are deleting from, here is a version with an alias:

1922



```
DELETE w
FROM WorkRecord2 w
INNER JOIN Employee e
```

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edited Aug 24 '16 at 17:12

taylorsabell
317 2 13

answered May 10 '13 at 11:43

Taryn ♦
197k 47 304 363

- 122 if you want to delete from both the table use DELETE w,e FROM WorkRecord2 w INNER JOIN Employee e ON EmployeeRun=EmployeeNo Where Company = '1' AND Date = '2013-05-06' – [Pragnesh Rupapara](#) Sep 20 '13 at 10:39
- 71 @PragneshMca That syntax will not work for SQL Server. – [Taryn ♦](#) Nov 19 '13 at 15:16
- 7 @bluefeet could you provide the right syntax for SQL Server for deleting from both tables? – [oabarca](#) May 21 '14 at 14:43
- 36 @user2070775 In SQL Server to delete from 2 tables you need to use 2 separate statements. – [Taryn ♦](#) May 27 '14 at 14:12
- 6 @user2070775 in SQL Server, you can use transactions and pseudo-tables, as shown in [stackoverflow.com/questions/783726/...](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/783726/) – [Mathieu Rodic](#) Jun 1 '14 at 20:28

Try this, it might help

4

```
DELETE WorkRecord2
FROM WorkRecord2
INNER JOIN Employee
ON EmployeeRun=EmployeeNo
WHERE Company = '1'
AND Date = '2013-05-06';
```

answered Apr 10 '18 at 7:26

viraj sharma
73 2

- 5 How is it different from the accepted answer: [stackoverflow.com/questions/16481379/...](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/16481379/)? – [default locale](#) Apr 10 '18 at 7:48
- 2 This answer uses explicit table naming rather than aliasing, making it asier for those less experienced to read /catch on to what is going on. – [Joshua Burns](#) Apr 5 at 20:09
- @JoshuaBurns: Still exact duplicate of [my answer](#). – [hims056](#) Apr 29 at 11:22

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2

```
DELETE table1.* ,
      table2.*
FROM table1
INNER JOIN table2 ON table1.id= table2.id where table1.id ='given_id'
```

edited Sep 20 '17 at 17:04



OmegaMan

17.1k 5 49 64

answered May 10 '17 at 13:08



Ady

49 2

1 This question is for SQL Server. You cannot delete from two tables in one statement in SQL Server. My understanding is this *can* be done in mysql and MS Access. – [D-Money](#) Jul 10 '18 at 21:43

Here's what I currently use for deleting or even, updating:

1

```
DELETE FROM      w
FROM             WorkRecord2  w,
                Employee      e
WHERE            w.EmployeeRun = e.EmployeeNo
AND              w.Company = '1'
AND              w.Date = '2013-05-06'
```

answered Feb 22 '17 at 14:50



PPJN

162 10

Another way using CTE .

3

```
;WITH cte
AS (SELECT *
FROM   workrecord2 w
WHERE  EXISTS (SELECT 1
FROM     employee e
WHERE    employeerun = employeeno
AND      ...))
```

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Note : We cannot use `JOIN` inside `CTE` when you want to `delete` .

edited Sep 10 '16 at 15:10

answered Sep 10 '16 at 14:59



Pratik

77k 12 85 123

You don't specify the tables for `Company` and `Date` , you might want to fix that.

2

Standard SQL using `MERGE` :

```
MERGE WorkRecord2 T
USING Employee S
ON T.EmployeeRun = S.EmployeeNo
   AND Company = '1'
   AND Date = '2013-05-06'
WHEN MATCHED THEN DELETE;
```

The answer from @Devart is also Standard SQL though incomplete, should look more like this:

```
DELETE
FROM WorkRecord2
WHERE EXISTS ( SELECT *
               FROM Employee S
               WHERE S.EmployeeNo = WorkRecord2.EmployeeRun
                   AND Company = '1'
                   AND Date = '2013-05-06' );
```

The important thing to note about the above is it is clear the delete is targeting a single table, as enforced in the second example by requiring a scalar subquery.

For me the various proprietary syntax answers are harder to read and understand. I guess the mindset for is best described in the answer by @frans eilering i.e. the person writing the code doesn't necessarily care about the person who will read and maintain the code.

answered May 19 '16 at 13:22



onedaywhen

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Here is my SQL Server version

```
1 DECLARE @ProfileId table(Id bigint)

DELETE FROM AspNetUsers
OUTPUT deleted.ProfileId INTO @ProfileId
WHERE Email = @email

DELETE FROM UserProfiles
WHERE Id = (Select Id FROM @ProfileId)
```

answered Mar 9 '16 at 9:28



[ozzy432836](#)

1,522 1 20 23

In SQL Server Management Studio I can easily create a SELECT query.

```
7 SELECT Contact.Naam_Contactpersoon, Bedrijf.BedrijfsNaam, Bedrijf.Adres,
Bedrijf.Postcode
FROM Contact
INNER JOIN Bedrijf ON Bedrijf.IDBedrijf = Contact.IDbedrijf
```

I can execute it, and all my contacts are shown.

Now change the SELECT to a DELETE:

```
DELETE Contact
FROM Contact
INNER JOIN Bedrijf ON Bedrijf.IDBedrijf = Contact.IDbedrijf
```

All the records you saw in the SELECT statement will be removed.

You may even create a more difficult inner join with the same procedure, for example:

```
DELETE FROM Contact
```

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edited Jun 1 '15 at 21:40



J0e3gan

7,442 9 43 72

answered Jun 1 '15 at 21:08



frans eilering

191 2 3

5

```
DELETE a FROM WorkRecord2 a
INNER JOIN Employee b
ON a.EmployeeRun = b.EmployeeNo
Where a.Company = '1'
AND a.Date = '2013-05-06'
```

edited Apr 29 '15 at 17:19



Khurram Ali

1,466 3 17 28

answered Apr 28 '15 at 16:00



Dhanraj Mittal

51 1 2

2 fine but wish to explain a little about your code. – [Nima Derakhshanjan](#) Apr 28 '15 at 16:20

7

Try this query :

```
DELETE WorkRecord2, Employee
FROM WorkRecord2
INNER JOIN Employee ON (tbl_name.EmployeeRun=tbl_name.EmployeeNo)
WHERE tbl_name.Company = '1'
AND tbl_name.Date = '2013-05-06';
```

edited Sep 17 '14 at 13:37



Tony Stark

691 6 20

answered Jul 16 '14 at 10:16



Ali

990 1 13 30

7 I'm pretty sure a DELETE can only specify one table. This doesn't work for me. – [Stealth Rabbi](#) Mar 17 '15 at 14:35

2 I believe you can specify multiple tables for deletion in mySQL, but not SQL Server (which the question asks). – [fila](#) Dec 20 '16 at 5:45

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It should be:

12

```
DELETE zpost
FROM zpost
INNER JOIN zcomment ON (zpost.zpostid = zcomment.zpostid)
WHERE zcomment.icomment = "first"
```

edited Sep 17 '14 at 13:12



Tony Stark
691 6 20

answered Aug 17 '14 at 8:15



yoginder bagga
121 1 2

This version should works

8

```
DELETE WorkRecord2
FROM WorkRecord2
INNER JOIN Employee ON EmployeeRun=EmployeeNo
Where Company = '1' AND Date = '2013-05-06'
```

answered Aug 12 '14 at 19:56



AustinTX
563 3 12 21

Try this:

26

```
DELETE FROM WorkRecord2
FROM Employee
Where EmployeeRun=EmployeeNo
And Company = '1'
AND Date = '2013-05-06'
```

answered May 10 '13 at 17:37



Behrouz Bakhtiari
703 4 5

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Possible this be helpful for you -

24

```
DELETE FROM dbo.WorkRecord2
WHERE EmployeeRun IN (
    SELECT e.EmployeeNo
    FROM dbo.Employee e
    WHERE ...
)
```

Or try this -

```
DELETE FROM dbo.WorkRecord2
WHERE EXISTS(
    SELECT 1
    FROM dbo.Employee e
    WHERE EmployeeRun = e.EmployeeNo
    AND ....
)
```

edited May 10 '13 at 12:19

answered May 10 '13 at 12:12



Devart

101k

19

143

162

This is the only answer that works on Sql Server. Just build your query like select Id from... join ... join etc then wrap it as a subquery and do a delete from (table) where Id in (subquery) – [Chris Moschini](#) Sep 29 '15 at 14:18

Just add the name of the table between `DELETE` and `FROM` from where you want to delete records because we have to specify the table to delete. Also remove `ORDER BY` clause because there is nothing to order while deleting records.

125

So your final query should be like this:

```
DELETE WorkRecord2
FROM WorkRecord2
```

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```
WHERE Company = '1'  
AND Date = '2013-05-06';
```

answered May 10 '13 at 12:07

[hims056](#)**23.8k**

23

93

120

2 This one works on SQL Server if you only intend to delete from the first table. – [matwonk](#) Dec 21 '18 at 18:55

@matwonk: You can delete from second table to if you use second table's name. E.g. using `DELETE Employee` will delete from Employee's table instead of `WorkRecord2` table. – [hims056](#) Dec 22 '18 at 4:18

@matwonk: Here is an example: 1) [Deleting from the first table](#) 2) [Deleting from the second table](#). – [hims056](#) May 2 at 10:52

protected by [Community ♦](#) Jun 1 '15 at 21:33

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