How to select all the columns of a table except one column?

Asked 4 years, 5 months ago   Active 2 months ago   Viewed 105k times

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How to select all the columns of a table except one column?

I have nearly 259 columns I cant mention 258 columns in `SELECT` statement.

Is there any other way to do it?

sql   sql-server

edited Apr 2 '15 at 6:09   asked Mar 17 '15 at 9:18

    sqluser   Giri Prasad
    4,552 7 26 42   **217** 1 4 13

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5   Which DBMS you are using? – Rahul Tripathi Mar 17 '15 at 9:19

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5   You've already got a table with 259 columns. Why do you care about selecting one less? You've already made a monster of a database and a monster of a result set, one column won't make a difference. – Luaan Mar 17 '15 at 9:24

No, that's not possible. You have to list every column (or write a function that does this for your). But many SQL clients can help you to "generate" that list automatically through auto completion. Plus which DBMS are you using? Postgres? Oracle? – a_horse_with_no_name Mar 17 '15 at 9:27 ✎

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1   @GiriPrasad In Management studio, you can right click the table, select `Script table as` -> `Select to` -> `New query window`. This will generate a select with all the columns, and you can just get rid of the one you don't want. – Luaan Mar 17 '15 at 13:15

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4   possible duplicate of SQL exclude a column using SELECT * [except columnA] FROM tableA? – Bridge Mar 24 '15 at 15:03

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11 Answers

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You can use this approach to get the data from all the columns except one:-

1. Insert all the data into a temporary table

3. Fetch the data from the temporary table(This will not contain the data of the removed column)

4. Drop the temporary table

Something like this:

```
SELECT * INTO #TemporaryTable FROM YourTableName

ALTER TABLE #TemporaryTable DROP COLUMN Columnwhichyouwanttoremove

SELECT * FROM #TemporaryTable

DROP TABLE #TemporaryTable
```

answered Mar 17 '15 at 9:22

Rahul Tripathi
134k   21   191   264

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1   How do you know which DBMS Giri is using? – a_horse_with_no_name Mar 17 '15 at 9:27

5   @a_horse_with_no_name:- I dont know thats why I said its just an *approach*! – Rahul Tripathi Mar 17 '15 at 9:28 ✎

1   Thanks for response. seems to be a useful solution – Giri Prasad Mar 17 '15 at 12:46

1   I must admit, this is a novel solution. However, this can place quite a load on a busy server every time the query needs to be executed. And all because one db developer has an attack of the lazies. "I can't mention 258 columns in select statement" indeed! – TommCatt Mar 18 '15 at 4:55

4   In fact, in thinking about it some more, I think I would have a long sit-down with any programmer who executed such code. Of course, I would also like to have a long discussion with whoever designed such a table and then again with the analyst who requested such a query. Heads will roll, people! – TommCatt Mar 18 '15 at 4:59

Create a view. Yes, in the view creation statement, you will have to list each...and...every...field...by...name.

10   Once.

Then just `select * from viewname` after that.

answered Mar 18 '15 at 4:51

You can get the column name details from sys.columns table

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Try the following query:

```
SELECT * FROM SYS.COLUMNS
WHERE object_id = OBJECT_ID('dbo.TableName')
AND [Name] <> 'ColumnName'

DECLARE @sql as VARCHAR(8000)
SET @sql = 'SELECT '

SELECT @sql += [Name] + ', ' FROM SYS.COLUMNS
WHERE object_id = OBJECT_ID('dbo.TableName')
AND [Name] <> 'ColumnName'

SELECT @sql += ' FROM Dbo.TableName'

EXEC(@sql)
```

answered Mar 24 '15 at 12:02

ps_prakash02

390   3   15

There are lot of options available , one of them is :

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```
CREATE TEMPORARY TABLE temp_tb SELECT * FROM orig_tb;
ALTER TABLE temp_tb DROP col_x;
SELECT * FROM temp_tb;
```

Here the col_x is the column which u dont want to include in select statement.

Take a look at this question : Select all columns except one in MySQL?

edited May 23 '17 at 12:10   answered Mar 17 '15 at 9:23

Community ♦   Sagar Joon

Thanks for the response –   Giri Prasad   Mar 18 '15 at 5:11

Without creating new table you can do simply (e.g with mysqli):

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1. get all columns

2. loop through all columns and remove wich you want

3. make your query

```
$r = mysqli_query('SELECT column_name FROM information_schema.columns WHERE table_name =
table_to_query');

$c = count($r); while($c--) if($r[$c]['column_name'] != 'column_to_remove_from_query')
$a[] = $r[$c]['column_name']; else unset($r[$c]);

$r = mysqli_query('SELECT ' . implode(',', $a) . ' FROM table_to_query');
```

answered Jan 1 '16 at 11:02

Sergio Pisoni
72   2   12

If you are using [DataGrip](#) you can do the following:

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1. Enter your SELECT statement `SELECT * FROM <your_table>;`

2. Put your cursor over `*` and press `Alt+Enter`

3. You will get pop up menu with `Expand column list` option

4. Click on it and it will convert `*` with full list of columns

5. Now you can remove columns that you don't need
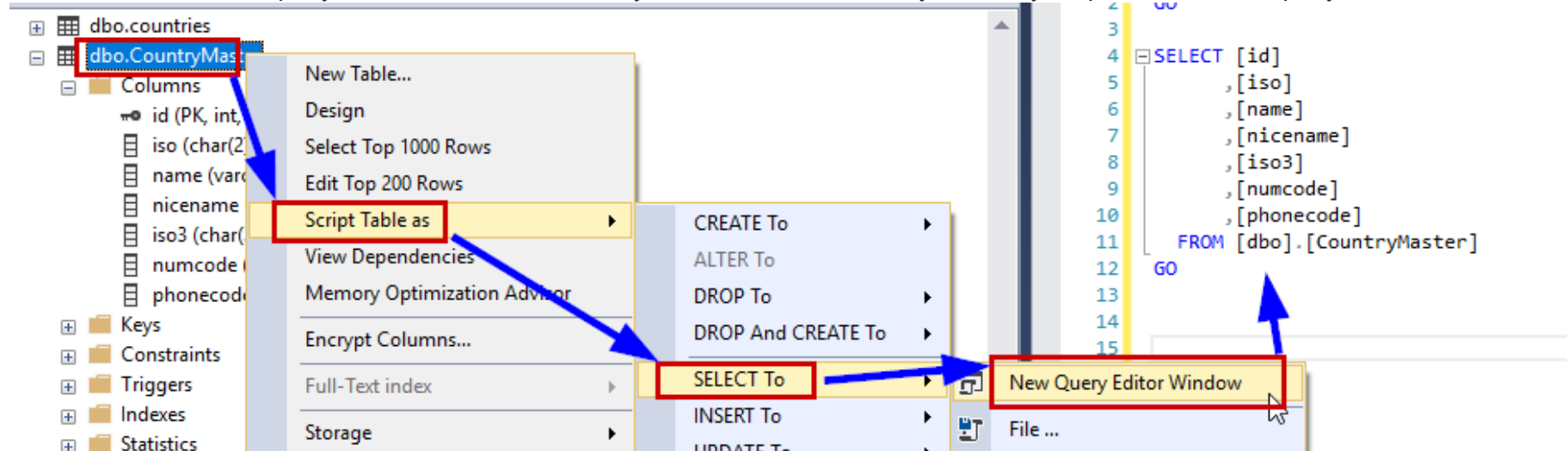
[Here is a link for an example on how to do it.](#)

1

I just wanted to echo @Luann's comment as I use this approach always.

Just right click on the table > Script table as > Select to > New Query window.

You will see the select query. Just take out the column you want to exclude and you have your preferred select query.

answered Mar 6 at 2:04

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In your case, expand columns of that database in the object explorer. Drag the columns in to the query area.

And then just delete one or two columns which you don't want and then run it. I'm open to any suggestions easier than this.

answered Jan 20 '17 at 21:06

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```
DECLARE @Temp NVARCHAR(MAX);
DECLARE @SQL NVARCHAR(MAX);

SET @Temp = '';
SELECT @Temp = @Temp + COLUMN_NAME + ', ' FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMNS WHERE
TABLE_NAME ='Person' AND COLUMN_NAME NOT IN ('Id')

SET @SQL = 'SELECT ' + SUBSTRING(@Temp, 0, LEN(@Temp)) +' FROM [Person]';
EXECUTE SP_EXECUTESQL @SQL;
```

answered Sep 8 '17 at 4:35

Omid Nasri
149   1   9

Only one way to achieve this giving column name. There is no other method found. You must have to list all column name

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answered Apr 26 '18 at 9:45

yasir kk
123   2   7

This is not a generic solution, but some databases allow you to use regular expressions to specify the columns.

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For instance, in the case of Hive, the following query selects all columns except ds and hr:

```
SELECT `(ds|hr)?+.+` FROM sales
```

https://cwiki.apache.org/confluence/display/Hive/LanguageManual+Select#LanguageManualSelect-REGEXColumnSpecification

answered Mar 1 at 13:35

Fatore
116   2   5