SQL Query Multiple Columns Using Distinct on One Column Only

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I am trying to write a SQL query that selects multiple columns from a table with the distinct operator on one column only.

The table is simple. The columns are:

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```
tblFruit_ID, tblFruit_FruitType, tblFruit_FruitName
int          NVarChar            Text
```

I am trying to select all the tblFruit_FruitType with their corresponding tblFruit_ID.

I have tried:

```
Select Distinct(tblFruit_FruitType), tblFruit_ID FROM tblFruit
```

-Returns all results, not just distinct

```
Select tblFruit_FruitType, tblFruit_ID FROM tblFruit Group By tblFruit_FruitType
```

-Errors with Column tblFruit_ID is invalid in the select list because it is not contained in either an aggregate function or the GROUP BY clause.

I also checked out these similar posts and could not get
anything to work :(

[mySQL select one column DISTINCT, with corresponding
other columns](#)

[SQL Server Distinct Union for one column](#)

Hopefully this is enough information for an answer.

Thank you for your time!

EDIT (Sample Data and Desired Results)

```
tblFruit_ID, tblFruit_FruitType, tblFruit_FruitName
int          NVarChar            Text
1            Citrus              Orange
2            Citrus              Lime
3            Citrus              Lemon
4            Seed                Cherry
5            Seed                Banana
```

Results:

```
1            Citrus
4            Seed
```

sql-server   select

edited May 23 '17 at 12:26

Community ♦

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asked Aug 13 '12 at 15:12

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4 Answers

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```
select * from tblFruit where
tblFruit_ID in (Select max(tblFruit_ID) FROM tblFruit grou
```

answered Aug 13 '12 at 15:26

valex
22.1k   6   35   55

This query returns the correct rows with the results. Please see the below answer for more explanation of what is happening! – Steve Aug 13 '12 at 15:39

The below answer also works to produce the desired results. – Steve Aug 15 '12 at 15:02

Thanks! It helped a lot – MaxG Oct 18 '17 at 12:19

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You must use an aggregate function on the columns against which you are not grouping. In this example, I arbitrarily picked the Min function. You are combining the rows with the same `FruitType` value. If I have two rows with the same `FruitType` value but different `Fruit_Id` values for example, what should the system do?

```
Select Min(tblFruit_id) As tblFruit_id
```

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edited Aug 13 '12 at 20:47

answered Aug 13 '12 at 15:16

Thomas
56.9k   8   80   126

1   Nice. Thank you a ton. This worked perfectly and I actually understand what everything does now. I wish I could vote up more then once. –   Steve   Aug 13 '12 at 15:30

Note: In this query Min(tblFruit_id) and Min(tblFruit_FruitName) can be from different rows (different Fruits) – valex Aug 13 '12 at 15:30 ✎

You are correct. The query gives the same desired results but does return values from other rows. –   Steve   Aug 13 '12 at 15:37

@valexhome - Sorry, I see what you are suggesting. Yes, that is true however nothing other than the Id and Type are designed in the output so it will make no difference. – Thomas Aug 13 '12 at 20:50

Yes. I wish I could mark both as correct answers because they both give the exact same desired results. –   Steve   Aug 15 '12 at 15:01

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I needed to do the same and had to query a query to get the result

I set my first query up to bring in all IDs from the table and

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Save this as Q04_1 -0 this returned 1229 results (there are 63 unique records to query - soime with multiple LOTs)

```
SELECT DISTINCT ID
FROM q04_1;
```

Saved that as q04_2

I then wrote another query which brought in the required information linked to the ID

```
SELECT q04_2.ID, tMAIN.Customer, tMAIN.Category
FROM q04_2 INNER JOIN tMAIN ON q04_2.ID = tMAIN.ID;
```

Worked a treat and got me exactly what I needed - 63 unique records returned with customer and category details.

This is how I worked around it as I couldn't get the Group By working at all - although I am rather "wet behind the ears" weith SQL (so please be gentle and constructive with feedback)

answered Nov 3 '17 at 14:39

[Marcus Black](#)

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```
select * from
(select
ROW_NUMBER() OVER(PARTITION BY tblFruit_FruitType ORDER BY
```

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edited Feb 12 at 11:18

Anastasios Selmanis
2,139   3   18   36

answered Feb 12 at 10:05

Muhammed salem
1

Please add some explanation to that code, such that others can learn from it – Nico Haase Feb 12 at 11:43

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