



# SQL OF THE DAY



FINDING USER PURCHASES

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# PROBLEMS

[https://platform.stratascratch.com/coding/10322-finding-user-purchases?code\\_type=1](https://platform.stratascratch.com/coding/10322-finding-user-purchases?code_type=1)

Problem:

Identify returning active users by finding users who made a second purchase within 1 to 7 days after their first purchase. Ignore same-day purchases. Output a list of these user\_ids.



# SOLUTION

## 🧩 Logic breakdown

- Rank purchases per user

Use `row_number()` to order purchases chronologically for each user.

- Extract first and second purchase

Use `case when` to mark the first and second purchase.  
`max()` is used to safely return the non-null timestamp per user.

- Filter returning users

Keep users where:

- a second purchase exists
- the second purchase happens 1–7 days after the first

```
with ranked_purchases as (  
    select  
        user_id,  
        created_at,  
        row_number() over (  
            partition by user_id  
            order by created_at  
        ) as rn  
    from amazon_transactions  
),  
first_second_orders as (  
    select  
        user_id,  
        max(case when rn = 1 then created_at end) as  
first_purchase, max(case when rn = 2 then created_at end) as  
second_purchase  
    from ranked_purchases  
    group by user_id  
)  
select user_id  
from first_second_orders  
where  
    second_purchase is not null  
    and second_purchase - first_purchase between 1 and 7;
```



# KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Rank purchases per user

Use `row_number()` to order purchases chronologically for each user.

- Extract first and second purchase

Use `case when` to mark the first and second purchase.

`max()` is used to safely return the non-null timestamp per user.

- Filter returning users

Keep users where:

- a. a second purchase exists
- b. the second purchase happens 1–7 days after the first



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Let's  
Connect

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