

Part 64 – Replacing cursors using joins

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In this session we will learn

- Replacing cursors using joins

SQL Server Video Series

Part 61 - Creating a large table with random data for performance testing

Part 62 - What to choose for performance - SubQuery or Joins

Part 63 - Cursors

Link to Dot Net Basics, ASP.NET, C#, ADO.NET and SQL Server video series

<http://www.youtube.com/user/kudvenkat/videos?view=1>

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Replacing cursors using joins

In Part 63, we have discussed about cursors. The example, in Part 63, took around 45 seconds on my machine. Please watch Part 63, before proceeding with this video. In this video we will re-write the example, using a join.

```
Update tblProductSales
set UnitPrice =
    Case
        When Name = 'Product - 55' Then 155
        When Name = 'Product - 65' Then 165
        When Name like 'Product - 100%' Then 10001
    End
from tblProductSales
join tblProducts
on tblProducts.Id = tblProductSales.ProductId
Where Name = 'Product - 55' or Name = 'Product - 65' or
Name like 'Product - 100%'
```

When I executed this query, on my machine it took less than a second. Where as the same thing using a cursor took 45 seconds.

Just imagine the amount of impact cursors have on performance. Cursors should be used as your last option.

Most of the time cursors can be very easily replaced using joins.

Additional Resources

- PRAGIM Home Page:

- www.PragimTech.com

- Resources:

- ASP.NET Interview Questions
 - www.VenkatASPInterview.Blogspot.com
 - C# Interview Questions
 - www.VenkatCSharpInterview.Blogspot.com
 - SQL Server Interview Questions
 - www.venkatsqlinterview.Blogspot.com