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SQL Server Tutorial

Part 129 - Difference between DateTime and DateTime2 in SQL Server

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In this session we will learn

Difference between DateTime and DateTime2 in SQL Server

Link to Dot Net Basics, ASP.NET, C#, ADO.NET and SQL Server video series http://www.youtube.com/user/kudvenkat/playlists

Suggested Videos

Part 126 - DATEFROMPARTS function in SQL Server

Part 127 - Difference between DateTime and SmallDateTime in SQL Server

Part 128 - DateTime2FromPartsfunction in SQL Server 2012

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DateTime v/s DateTime2

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Differences between DateTime and DateTime2

Attribute	DateTime	DateTime2
Date Range	January 1, 1753, through December 31, 9999	January 1, 0001, through December 31, 9999
Time Range	00:00:00 through 23:59:59.997	00:00:00 through 23:59:59.9999999
Accuracy	3.33 Milli-seconds	100 nanoseconds
Size	8 Bytes	6 to 8 Bytes (Depends on the precision)
Default Value	1900-01-01 00:00:00	1900-01-01 00:00:00

DATETIME2 has a bigger date range than DATETIME. Also, DATETIME2 is more accurate than DATETIME

So I would recommend using DATETIME2 over DATETIME when possible

I think the only reason for using DATETIME over DATETIME2 is for backward compatibility

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DateTime v/s DateTime2

DateTime2 Syntax: DATETIME2 [(fractional seconds precision)]

With DateTime2

- · Optional fractional seconds precision can be specified
- The precision scale is from 0 to 7 digits
- · The default precision is 7 digits
- For precision 0,1 and 2, storage size is 6 bytes
- · For precision 3 and 4, storage size is 7 bytes
- For precision 5, 6 and 7, storage size is 8 bytes

Notice as the precision increases the storage size also increases

Precision	DateValue	StorageSize
Precision - 0	2015-10-20 15:09:12.0000000	6
Precision - 1	2015-10-20 15:09:12.1000000	6
Precision - 2	2015-10-20 15:09:12.1200000	6
Precision - 3	2015-10-20 15:09:12.1230000	7
Precision - 4	2015-10-20 15:09:12.1235000	7
Precision - 5	2015-10-20 15:09:12.1234600	8
Precision - 6	2015-10-20 15:09:12.1234570	8
Precision - 7	2015-10-20 15:09:12.1234567	8



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Additional Resources

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