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# **Assignment 06**

In this article, I will introduce the use of SQL Views and when you would want to use them. Similarly, you will also learn how to create Functions and Stored Procedures, which are other methods to store your SQL query within a database file.

**What is SQL view and when you would use it?**

SQL view is a way to store SQL query or code (select statements) within a database file. When you use a view, it executes the stored SQL query and creates results by returning data with rows and columns. You may refer to it as a virtual table since it does not store rows and columns like a database table. A view only contains the SQL query that is used to retrieve the data.

It is best to use SQL view when you are writing complex queries and you want to use your stored query repeatedly. This way you can use it like it were a table storing the data returned by complex queries.

To create a view, you will need to use the **Create View** Statement.

Similarities & Differences between a View, Function and Stored Procedure

The use of Views and Functions are similar in a way that these are methods to store your SQL query or code in a database file. Views and Functions are Named select statements.

With Functions you will be able to use parameters to change the results of your query. You can also create User-Defined Functions to return a table of values and return a single value as an expression. These two functionalities are not possible when you are using Views.

Store Procedure are like Views and Functions; however, it’s not restricted to just Select statements.

**Similarities:**

**Creating a View**

Create **View** **v**NameYourView

AS

Select column1, column2, column3…

From Table\_Name

Go

Select \* from **v**NameYourView;

Go

**Creating a Function**

Create **Function** dbo**.f**NameYourFunction()

Returns Table

AS

Return (

Select column1, column2, column3…

From Table\_Name

);

Go

Select \* from dbo.**f**NameYourFunction ();

Go

It is common practice to use dbo. prefix when using function.

**Creating a Stored Procedure**

Create **Procedure** **p**NameYourStoredProcedure ()

AS

Select column1, column2, column3…

From Table\_Name

Go

Execute **p**NameYourStoredProcedure ();

Go

In conclusion, the use of Views, Functions and Stored Procedure are important to understand when you are wanting to save your stored query or code within the database. These are useful when you have complex queries and do not have to write them repeatedly.

Citations:

[SQL CREATE VIEW, REPLACE VIEW, DROP VIEW Statements (w3schools.com)](https://www.w3schools.com/sql/sql_view.asp)

[What is an SQL View? | LearnSQL.com](https://learnsql.com/blog/sql-view/#When%20Should%20You%20Use%20An%20SQL%20View?)

[SQL - Using Views (tutorialspoint.com)](https://www.tutorialspoint.com/sql/sql-using-views.htm)