



# SQL ORDER BY Keyword

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## The SQL ORDER BY Keyword

The ORDER BY keyword is used to sort the result-set in ascending or descending order.

The ORDER BY keyword sorts the records in ascending order by default. To sort the records in descending order, use the DESC keyword.

## ORDER BY Syntax

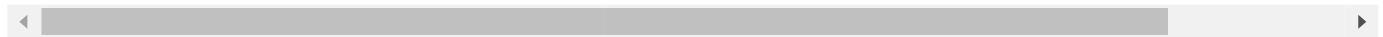
```
SELECT column1, column2, ...  
FROM table_name  
ORDER BY column1, column2, ... ASC|DESC;
```

## Demo Database

Below is a selection from the "Customers" table in the Northwind sample database:

CustomerID	CustomerName	ContactName	Address	City	PostalCod
1	Alfreds Futterkiste	Maria Anders	Obere Str. 57	Berlin	12209
2	Ana Trujillo	Ana Trujillo	Avda. de la	México	05021

	Emparedados y helados		Constitución 2222	D.F.	
3	Antonio Moreno Taquería	Antonio Moreno	Mataderos 2312	México D.F.	05023
4	Around the Horn	Thomas Hardy	120 Hanover Sq.	London	WA1 1DP
5	Berglunds snabbköp	Christina Berglund	Berguvsvägen 8	Luleå	S-958 22



## ORDER BY Example

The following SQL statement selects all customers from the "Customers" table, sorted by the "Country" column:

### Example

```
SELECT * FROM Customers  
ORDER BY Country;
```

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## ORDER BY DESC Example

The following SQL statement selects all customers from the "Customers" table, sorted DESCENDING by the "Country" column:

### Example

```
SELECT * FROM Customers  
ORDER BY Country DESC;
```

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## ORDER BY Several Columns Example

The following SQL statement selects all customers from the "Customers" table, sorted by the "Country" and the "CustomerName" column:

### Example

```
SELECT * FROM Customers  
ORDER BY Country, CustomerName;
```

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## ORDER BY Several Columns Example 2

The following SQL statement selects all customers from the "Customers" table, sorted ascending by the "Country" and descending by the "CustomerName" column:

### Example

```
SELECT * FROM Customers  
ORDER BY Country ASC, CustomerName DESC;
```

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