SQL | LIKE Operator

Sometimes we may require tuples from the database which match certain patterns. The LIKE operator is used in a WHERE clause to search for a specified pattern in a column.

There are two wildcards often used in conjunction with the LIKE operator:

- **%** : The percent sign represents zero, one, or multiple characters
- **_** : The underscore represents a single character

LIKE Syntax

```
SELECT column1, column2, ...
FROM table_name
WHERE columnN LIKE pattern;
```

Description

LIKE Operator	Description
LIKE 'a%'	Finds any values that start with "a"
LIKE '%a'	Finds any values that end with "a"
LIKE '%or%'	Finds any values that have "or" in any position
LIKE '_r%'	Finds any values that have "r" in the second position
LIKE 'a_%'	Finds any values that start with "a" and are at least 2 characters in length
LIKE 'a__%'	Finds any values that start with "a" and are at least 3 characters in length
LIKE 'a%o'	Finds any values that start with "a" and ends with "o"

Example

NAME
KING
BLAKE
CLARK
JONES
SCOTT
FORD
SMITH
Allen
Ward
Martin
Turner
Adams
James
Miller

Create & Insert

```sql
Create Table Name(
    Name varchar(255)
);

Insert Into Name
Values('KING');
Insert Into Name
Values('BLAKE');
Insert Into Name
Values('CLARK');
Insert Into Name
Values('JONES');
Insert Into Name
Values('SCOTT');
Insert Into Name
Values('FORD');
Insert Into Name
Values('SMITH');
Insert Into Name
Values('Allen');
Insert Into Name
Values('Ward');
Insert Into Name
Values('Martin');
Insert Into Name
Values('Turner');
Insert Into Name
```

```
Values('Adams');
Insert Into Name
Values('James');
Insert Into Name
Values('Miller');
```

Note : Be careful for case .

Ans:

```
--Start with M
Select * From Name
Where Name like 'M%';

--Ends with n
Select * From Name
Where Name like '%n';

--Having m at any position
Select * From Name
Where Name like '%m%';

--No m & M at any position
Select * From Name
Where (Name NOT like '%m%' AND  Name NOT like '%M%');

--Having 2 continous ll at any position
Select * From Name
Where Name like '%ll%';

--Having l at second place
Select * From Name
Where Name like '_l%';

--Any Value that Starts With A and is of Length 5
Select * From Name
Where Name like '_l%';

--Any Value that end with e
Select * From Name
Where Name like '%e_';

--Any Value that has 4 characters
Select Name From Name
Where Name like '____';

--Second Letter as l
Select Name From Name
Where Name like '_l%';

--Last letter as M
Select Name From Name
Where Name like '___m%';

--Start with J end with S
Select Name From Name
```

```sql
where Name like 'J%S';
```