In this video we will discuss **SQL Server except operator with examples.**  
  
   
  
**EXCEPT operator** returns unique rows from the left query that aren’t in the right query’s results.

* Introduced in SQL Server 2005
* The number and the order of the columns must be the same in all queries
* The data types must be same or compatible
* This is similar to minus operator in oracle

Let us understand this with an example. We will use the following 2 tables for this example.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-H0sALFpqm1c/VenyNidzfTI/AAAAAAAAd3s/p5VK_jhqaMg/s1600/Table%2BA.png | http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-e4qIE5tJBGs/Venyb0MPQJI/AAAAAAAAd30/pN_5ahniMhI/s1600/Table%2BB.png |

**SQL Script to create the tables**

Create Table TableA

(

    Id int primary key,

    Name nvarchar(50),

    Gender nvarchar(10)

)

Go

Insert into TableA values (1, 'Mark', 'Male')

Insert into TableA values (2, 'Mary', 'Female')

Insert into TableA values (3, 'Steve', 'Male')

Insert into TableA values (4, 'John', 'Male')

Insert into TableA values (5, 'Sara', 'Female')

Go

Create Table TableB

(

    Id int primary key,

    Name nvarchar(50),

    Gender nvarchar(10)

)

Go

Insert into TableB values (4, 'John', 'Male')

Insert into TableB values (5, 'Sara', 'Female')

Insert into TableB values (6, 'Pam', 'Female')

Insert into TableB values (7, 'Rebeka', 'Female')

Insert into TableB values (8, 'Jordan', 'Male')

Go

Notice that the following query returns the unique rows from the left query that aren’t in the right query’s results.

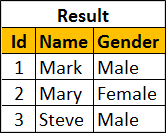
Select Id, Name, Gender

From TableA

Except

Select Id, Name, Gender

From TableB

**Result :**   
   
  
To retrieve all of the rows from Table B that does not exist in Table A, reverse the two queries as shown below.

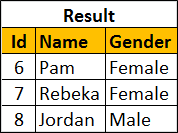
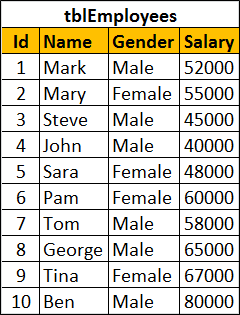
Select Id, Name, Gender

From TableB

Except

Select Id, Name, Gender

From TableA

**Result :**   
   
  
You can also use Except operator on a single table. Let's use the following tblEmployees table for this example.   
   
  
SQL script to create tblEmployees table

Create table tblEmployees

(

    Id int identity primary key,

    Name nvarchar(100),

    Gender nvarchar(10),

    Salary int

)

Go

Insert into tblEmployees values ('Mark', 'Male', 52000)

Insert into tblEmployees values ('Mary', 'Female', 55000)

Insert into tblEmployees values ('Steve', 'Male', 45000)

Insert into tblEmployees values ('John', 'Male', 40000)

Insert into tblEmployees values ('Sara', 'Female', 48000)

Insert into tblEmployees values ('Pam', 'Female', 60000)

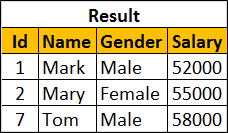
Insert into tblEmployees values ('Tom', 'Male', 58000)

Insert into tblEmployees values ('George', 'Male', 65000)

Insert into tblEmployees values ('Tina', 'Female', 67000)

Insert into tblEmployees values ('Ben', 'Male', 80000)

Go

**Result :**   
   
  
**Order By clause should be used only once after the right query**

Select Id, Name, Gender, Salary

From tblEmployees

Where Salary >= 50000

Except

Select Id, Name, Gender, Salary

From tblEmployees

Where Salary >= 60000

order By Name