

## **Introduction**

This week, we've learned about functions. In the summary below, I will discuss user-defined functions, and explain the differences between scalar, inline, and multi-statement functions.

## **User-Defined Functions**

User-defined functions allow users to create custom functions in SQL. They are commands to return a set of values in a database and are tools to return calculations as values (Aggregate Functions, 2022).

## **Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement Functions**

Scalar functions pull a single data point in the database (SQL Server Programming..., 2013). Tabular functions can show a table within the database. Both inline and multi-statement functions are tabular. However, an inline function will only use one select statement whereas a multi-statement function will use multiple. All of these are similar as they can be used to retrieve data within a database; however they increase in complexity for the coding, with scalar functions being the most simple, followed by inline, and then multi-statement.

## **Conclusion**

To conclude, user-defined functions allow SQL developers to store calculations as values in SQL. These functions include the three types described above.

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<https://github.com/taylorp73/DBFoundations-Module07>

#### **Sources**

Aggregate Functions (2022, May 7). Retrieved from [https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/t-](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/t-sql/functions/aggregate-functions-transact-sql?view=sql-server-ver16)

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCAEgNxC7nU&list=PLfycUyp06LG9wAGPKBZ7poKBcbDZr>

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