Helps simplify database structure to get data easier

- Select statement designed to act as a table
- Uses:
  - Simplifies complex table structure
    - Helps simplify filtering of data
    - Makes complex joins easier to use
  - Enhances security
    - Can give permission to the view but not the underlining data
  - o Potentially increased performance
    - Can create indexed view, where data is written out to disk

Put *create view* on top of select statement

Once a view is created you can use it like a table and joins it to other tables

Give view name and view data from view as a table

Table gets built in memory

## View Limitations

- Max 1024 columns
- No order by statement unless using TOP
- Single query returning a single table
- Columns must be directly referenced
  - Not AVG, COUNT, SUM, MIN, MAX
- Updates must be for one table only
- Cannot use SELECT ... INTO
- Cannot reference a temp table or table variable

## Limits on modifying view data

- Cannot modify data in multiple tables
- Cannot modify if using an aggregate function

## View Best Practices

Use 2-part naming

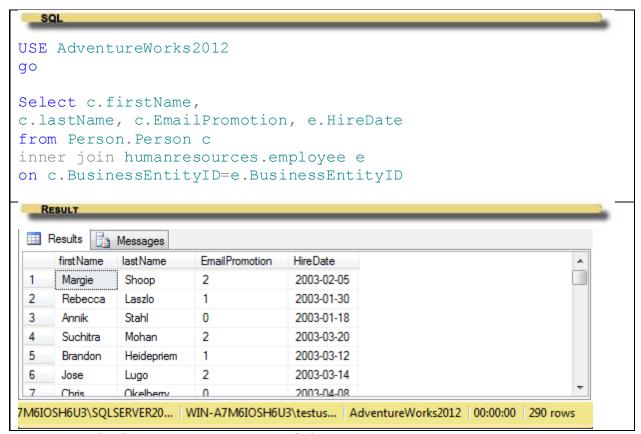
 Always start view name with lower case v to denote it's a view and not a table

- Don't join views
- Use good query writing
  - o Don't do select \*
  - Only returned required data

## **View Options**

- ENCRYPTION
  - Encrypts the definition, preventing all users from accessing the script
  - Save your script if using this
  - Issues

- Nobody can access it
- Easily hacked
- Only encrypts on last statement if you alter it, then it's not encrypted
- SCHEMABINDING
  - Underlying tables cannot be modified in a way that would impact the view
    - Required for indexed views
- View METADATA
  - Enables external APIs to browse metadata
- CHECK Option
  - Specified at the end
  - o Prevents modifications that would cause data to leave the view
- Add a new query



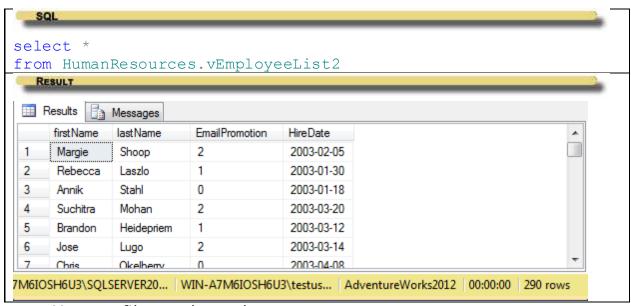
Now let's create a view out of this

```
CREATE VIEW HumanResources.vEmployeeList2
as
Select c.firstName,
c.lastName, c.EmailPromotion, e.HireDate
from Person.Person c
inner join humanresources.employee e
on c.BusinessEntityID=e.BusinessEntityID

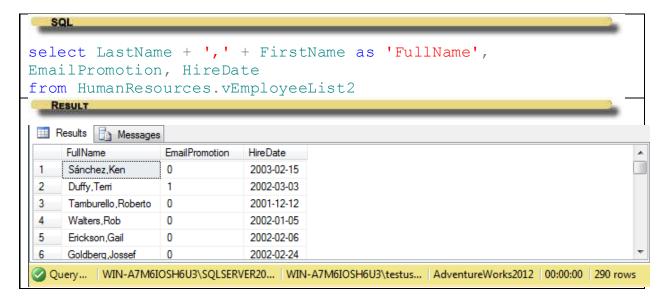
RESULT

Command(s) completed successfully.
```

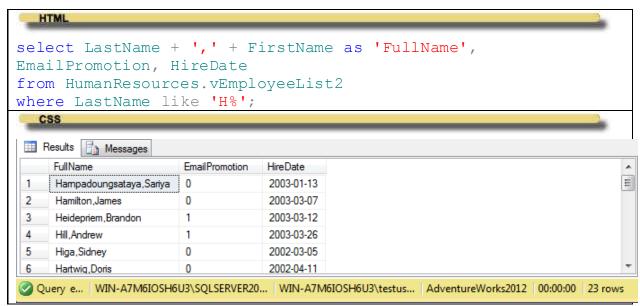
- Name it with v prefix to denote a view
- Now lets run a query using our new view



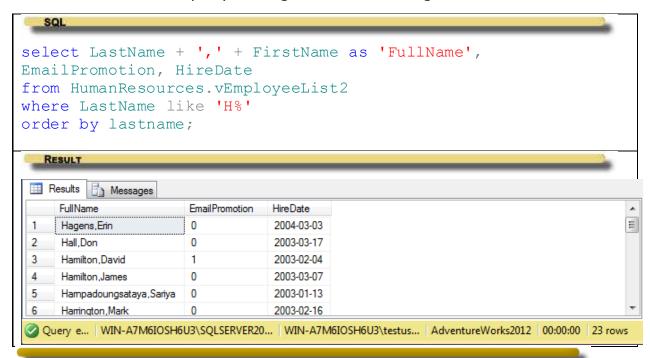
You can filter and sort data



Add a where claus



- Add order by
  - Order by is not allowed in view definition becauase it can be added to query calling the view and might cause it to sort twice



#### SchemaBinding

```
CREATE VIEW Humanresources.vEmployeeList3 WITH SCHEMABINDING as
```

```
select c.firstname
from Person.Person c
go

RESULT

Command(s) completed successfully.
```

With schemabinding must include schema name along with the table

If try to drop the table

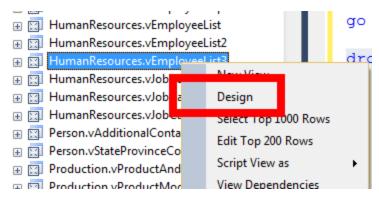
```
drop table Person.Person

RESULT

Msg 3726, Level 16, State 1, Line 1
Could not drop object 'Person.Person' because it is referenced by a FOREIGN KEY constraint.
```

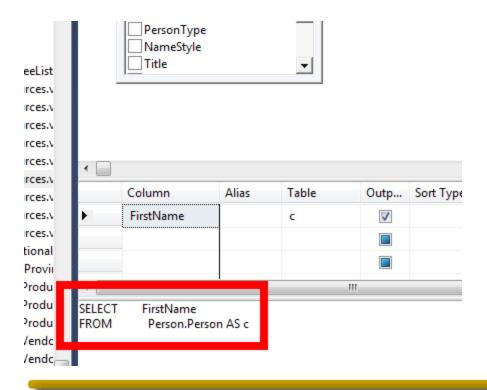
It prevents it

Right click on view and choose design and you can see it



Copy and paste to make new view

Create a view on a view



## Encryption

Create another view

Refresh the views and look at the design(its grayed out)

```
CREATE VIEW Humanresources.vEmployeeList4
With encryption
as
select c.firstname
from Person.Person c
go
```

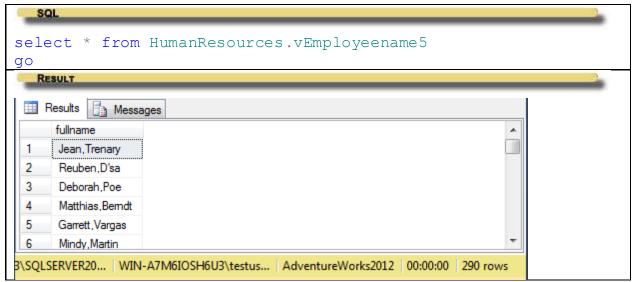
## Nesting view

Creating a view from pieces of another view

```
create view humanresources.vEmployeename5
as
select v.firstname + ',' + v.lastname as 'fullname'
from humanresources.vEmployeeList2 v
```



Test it

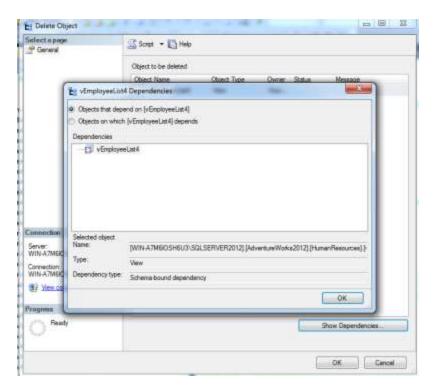


Shouldn't use these for performance and complexity but people often do use these

# **Drop Views**

Right click on view in object explorer

Can click show dependancies



## To do it in T-SQL

```
drop view HumanResources.vEmployeeList2
drop view HumanResources.vEmployeeList3
drop view HumanResources.vEmployeename5
```