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Over the years (and various versions of SQL Server), I have always had a need for different bits of data from the system tables to view activity on a SQL instance. The Microsoft "sp\_who" procs have always provided good information, but never really everything that I needed (and, more importantly, how I needed it... hence the reason for building my own version of the proc).

It can be run as is (example: **EXEC dbo.usp\_who5**) or with optional filter parameters:

@vFilter\_Active\_Blocked\_System : Limit result set by passing one or more valueslisted below (can be used individually or combined in any manner):

unavailable)

A - Active SPIDs Only B - Blocked SPIDs Only X - Exclude System Reserved SPIDs (1-50)

@vFilter SPID : Limit result set to a specific SPID

@vFilter\_NT\_Username\_Or\_Loginame : Limit result set to a specific Windows user name (if populated), otherwise by SQL Server login name

@vFilter\_SQL\_Statement : Limit result set to SQL statement(s) containing specific text

If you ever need to remember what the input parameters are and what they mean, you can simply execute the following:



When using the proc. you will notice that guery output contains a lot of handy information:

SPECID: System Process ID with Execution Context ID Blocked: Blocking indicator (includes type of block and blocking SPID) Running: Indicates if SPID is currently executing, waiting, inactive, or has open transactions
Login\_ID: Displays Windows user name (or login name if user name is

Login\_Name : Login name of the user associated to the Login\_ID (if available)

Elapsed\_Time : Total elapsed time since the request began (format HH:MM:SS) CPU\_Total : Cumulative CPU time since SPID login (format HH:MM:SS) CPU\_Current : Cumulative CPU time for currently executing request (format

HH:MM:SS)

Logical Reads: Number of logical reads performed by the current process Physical Reads: Number of physical reads performed by the current process Writes: Number of writes performed by the current process Pages\_Used: Number of pages in the procedure cache currently allocated to this process

Nesting\_Level : Nesting level of the statement currently being executed

Nesting\_Level: Nesting level of the statement currently being executed Open\_Trans: Number of open transactions for the process
Wait\_Time: Current wait time (format HH:MM:SS)
Status: Status of the current process
Command: Command currently being executed
SQL\_Statement: Returns the SQL statement of the associated SPID
Since\_SPID\_Login: Total elapsed time since the client logged into the

Server (format HH:MM:SS)
Since\_Last\_Batch: Total elapsed time since the client last completed a remote stored procedure call or an EXECUTE statement (format HH:MM:SS)

Nowstation Name: Workstation name
Database\_Name: Database context of the SPID
Application\_Description: Application accessing SQL Server
SPECID: System Process ID with Execution Context ID

If you ever need to remember what the output columns are and what they mean, you can simply execute the following:  $\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$ 



The best feature is that if there is any blocking occurring on the server it will come right to the top of the result set and show you the details immediately (which SPID is blocked and by who, which SPIDs are blocking other processes, which are running in parallelism).

I typically map the proc to keyboard combinations in SQL Server in order to run it on the fly with various input parameter combinations.

Enjoy.



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