

NOT in MS SQL

The **NOT** operator in SQL is used to **negate** a condition, meaning it returns the opposite of what the condition would normally return.

1. NOT with WHERE Clause

Used to exclude records that match a condition.

✓ **Example:** Get employees who are NOT in the HR department.

```
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SELECT * FROM Employees  
WHERE NOT Department = 'HR';
```

Same as:

```
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SELECT * FROM Employees  
WHERE Department <> 'HR';
```

2. NOT with IN

Used to exclude multiple values.

✓ **Example:** Get employees who are NOT in HR, IT, or Finance.

```
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SELECT * FROM Employees  
WHERE Department NOT IN ('HR', 'IT', 'Finance');
```

Equivalent to:

```
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SELECT * FROM Employees  
WHERE Department <> 'HR' AND Department <> 'IT' AND Department <> 'Finance';
```

3. NOT with LIKE

Used to find records that do NOT match a pattern.

✓ Example: Get employees whose names do NOT start with 'A'.

sql

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```
SELECT * FROM Employees
WHERE Name NOT LIKE 'A%';
```

6. NOT with NULL (Use IS NOT NULL)

SQL does NOT support `NOT = NULL`. Use `IS NOT NULL` instead.

✓ Example: Get employees who have an email (not null).

sql

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```
SELECT * FROM Employees
WHERE Email IS NOT NULL;
```

2. What happens if NULL values are present in a NOT IN condition?

✓ Answer:

If the list contains `NULL`, the `NOT IN` query might return **no results** because `NULL` makes comparisons unknown.

✓ Example (Incorrect behavior due to `NULL`):

sql

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```
SELECT * FROM Employees
WHERE Department NOT IN ('HR', 'IT', NULL);
```