

In **MS SQL**, you use loops to repeat a set of actions until a condition is met. The most common loop is a **WHILE** loop.

Syntax:

WHILE (condition)

BEGIN

-- Actions to perform

END

Loops (WHILE Loop):

- **Purpose:** A loop, like a `WHILE` loop, is used to **repeatedly execute** a set of actions until a condition is met.
- **Usage:** Loops are useful when you need to perform repetitive tasks, such as updating records or running a set of queries multiple times.

Example:

DECLARE @Counter INT = 1;

WHILE @Counter <= 5

BEGIN

PRINT @Counter; -- Print the current value

SET @Counter = @Counter + 1; -- Increment the counter

END

The loop runs 5 times, printing numbers from 1 to 5.

LOOPS are for repeating actions multiple times until a condition changes.

Using a **loop with a CASE statement** in SQL is often used for processing conditional logic in iterations. Here's a **simple example**:

Task:

Assign grades (A, B, C) based on scores in a temporary table using a loop.

Code Example:

-- Create a temporary table with sample scores

CREATE TABLE #StudentScores (

StudentID INT,

Score INT,

Grade CHAR(1) NULL

);

-- Insert sample data

INSERT INTO #StudentScores (StudentID, Score)

VALUES (1, 85), (2, 70), (3, 55), (4, 92), (5, 40);

-- Declare a variable to loop through the table

DECLARE @StudentID INT = 1;

-- Loop through each student and assign a grade

WHILE EXISTS (SELECT 1 FROM #StudentScores WHERE Grade IS NULL) -- Run until all grades are assigned

BEGIN

-- Update the grade based on the score using CASE

UPDATE #StudentScores

SET Grade = CASE

 WHEN Score >= 80 THEN 'A'

 WHEN Score >= 60 THEN 'B'

 ELSE 'C'

END

WHERE StudentID = @StudentID;

-- Move to the next student

SET @StudentID = @StudentID + 1;

END

-- Check the updated data

```
SELECT * FROM #StudentScores;
```

-- Drop the temporary table

```
DROP TABLE #StudentScores;
```

Explanation:

1. A temporary table `#StudentScores` is created with student IDs and scores.
2. A **WHILE** loop checks if there are rows where the `Grade` column is still `NULL`.
3. Inside the loop, the **CASE** statement assigns grades based on conditions:
 - A for scores ≥ 80 .
 - B for scores ≥ 60 but < 80 .
 - C for scores < 60 .
4. The loop increments `@StudentID` to process the next student until all rows have grades.