SQL Queries For Mere Mortals: A Hands-On Guide To Data Manipulation In SQL (3rd Edition)
The #1 Easy, Common-Sense Guide to SQL Queries—Updated for Today’s Databases, Standards, and Challenges

SQL Queries for Mere Mortals® has earned worldwide praise as the clearest, simplest tutorial on writing effective SQL queries. The authors have updated this hands-on classic to reflect new SQL standards and database applications and teach valuable new techniques. Step by step, John L. Viescas and Michael J. Hernandez guide you through creating reliable queries for virtually any modern SQL-based database. They demystify all aspects of SQL query writing, from simple data selection and filtering to joining multiple tables and modifying sets of data. Three brand-new chapters teach you how to solve a wide range of challenging SQL problems. You’ll learn how to write queries that apply multiple complex conditions on one table, perform sophisticated logical evaluations, and think outside the box • using unlinked tables. Coverage includes -- Getting started: understanding what relational databases are, and ensuring that your database structures are sound -- SQL basics: using SELECT statements, creating expressions, sorting information with ORDER BY, and filtering data using WHERE -- Summarizing and grouping data with GROUP BY and HAVING clauses -- Drawing data from multiple tables: using INNER JOIN, OUTER JOIN, and UNION operators, and working with subqueries -- Modifying data sets with UPDATE, INSERT, and DELETE statements Advanced queries: complex NOT and AND, conditions, if-then-else using CASE, unlinked tables, driver tables, and more Â Practice all you want with downloadable sample databases for today’s versions of Microsoft Office Access, Microsoft SQL Server, and the open source MySQL database. Whether you’re a DBA, developer, user, or student, there’s no better way to master SQL. informit.com/aw

Book Information

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It's easy to find a good book that will provide definitions and examples for inner joins vs. outer joins, subqueries, etc. You can read them and understand the definitions and/or examples, however, when you come across a 10-20 line query in your job or have to create your own complicated query from scratch you realize just how tenuous your gut-level understanding of this mysterious thing called SQL really is. This book will give you the gut-level understanding you so desperately crave - and need if you are working with databases. The authors provide clear explanations of the various SQL constructs for both the SQL Standard and real world levels (which are oftentimes two different things). They further deconstruct real-world issues by also describing the anomalies between some of the more popular databases. But you can get all this from just about any other good SQL book. Where this one really shines is the way it leads you from simple to more and more complex queries via well-crafted and well-explained examples. They progress from simple queries to queries containing expressions to filtering data with a 'where' clause to inner joins to outer joins to unions to subqueries to aggregate functions to grouping data and then filtering that data by 'having' clauses. They end up by covering updating, inserting, and deleting data. They give tons of examples that illustrate how to solve common problems and the more trickier "gotchas" that you're likely to run into. These examples occur both within the meat of the chapter, i.e. where they are explaining terms and concepts, and at the end of the chapter where they describe how and why they put the queries together the way they did. The queries are all against 5 databases containing from 6 to 13 tables each.

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