Retrieving Data Study Notes SELECT

A query is simply a question or request to the database.

SQL statements should always end with a semicolon, even though they may run without them.

The terms 'Records' and 'Rows' are often used interchangeably.

The terms 'Fields' and 'Columns' are often used interchangeable.

Text values should be enclosed in single or double quotes.

Numeric values for numeric data type fields should not be enclosed in quotes, even though they will work with quotes in MySQL.

How do I Switch to the Right Database?

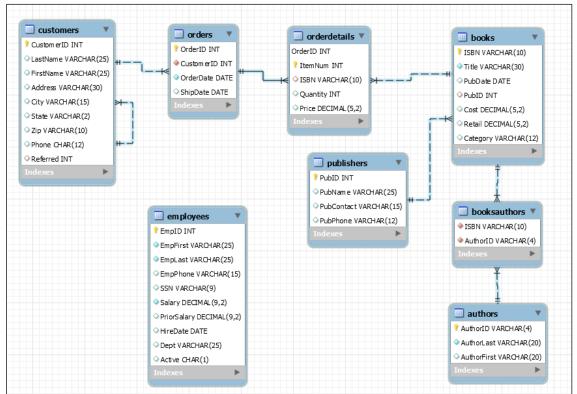
To let MySQL know what database to work with, execute the USE statement. This statement changes the current database to the one specified. It remains the current database until another USE statement is executed or the session is closed.

Practice:

USE BookLane;

Know Your Database

It's important to know the tables and fields in your database so you can work more effectively and efficiently. Here's an EER diagram of the tables and fields in the BookLane database. Notice the field names use upper camel case, meaning each word in the name begins with uppercase.



Does Capitalization and Indentions Matter?

Upper/lower case does not matter to MySQL, but it does matter to *good* developers. Using a capitalization standard helps with readability and helps spot errors which saves time and money. Many developers put keywords and clauses in uppercase, and other words in lowercase or mixed case. The most important thing is to be consistent!

For this class, please use uppercase for all keywords and clauses. Use upper camel case for field names as indicated in the EER diagram shown earlier in this document.

Note: The BookLane database was created using camel case for table names, but MySQL shows them as all lowercase. The BookLane database also uses camel case for column names as seen in the EER diagram above.

MySQL recognizes the end of a statement when it sees the semicolon, not the end of a line. Frequently a statement spans across multiple lines, with each clause indented on a new line for readability.

Example:

```
SELECT *
   FROM Customers;
```

How do I Retrieve Data?

The SQL SELECT Statement is used to retrieve data from tables.

The syntax of an SQL statement provides the basic structure, or rules, for a command. The SELECT statement's syntax looks pretty complicated, but it's actually not that difficult; It just has a lot of variations.

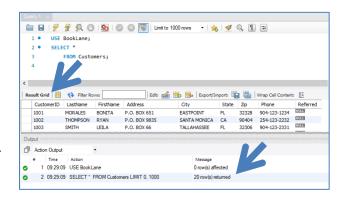
Refer to the syntax of the SELECT Statement shown here.

- Optional clauses and keywords are shown in square brackets
- SELECT and FROM clauses are required... notice they are not in brackets
- The SELECT clause is followed by the column names you wish to display (or * if you want all columns)
- The FROM clause is followed by the tablename that the data is coming from
- Each clause begins with a keyword
- As a default, every record (row) in the table will be displayed

Practice:

```
SELECT *
    FROM Customers;
```

After a SELECT statement is executed, the Result Grid will show the records. The Action Output will show the number of rows affected, or the total records returned.



SELECT [DISTINCT | UNIQUE] (*, columnname [AS alias], ...)

group_condition]

columnname];

tablename

condition]

[GROUP BY group by expression]

FROM

[WHERE

[HAVING

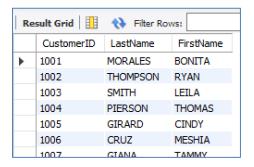
ORDER BY

How do I Limit the Fields Retrieved?

If you only want specific fields (columns) in your results, use a select list like this:

Practice:

SELECT CustomerID, LastName, FirstName
 FROM Customers;

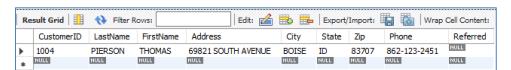


How do I Limit the Records Retrieved?

If you only want specific records (rows) in your results, use the WHERE clause.

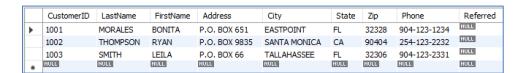
Practice:

```
SELECT *
  FROM Customers
  WHERE CustomerID = 1004;
```

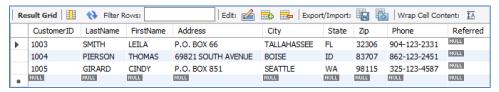


Practice:

```
SELECT *
  FROM Customers
  WHERE CustomerID < 1004;</pre>
```



```
SELECT *
  FROM Customers
  WHERE CustomerID > 1002 AND CustomerID < 1006;</pre>
```



Useful Operators:

= Equal to> Greater than< Less than

>= Greater than or equal to <= Less than or equal to

Not equal to
!= Not equal to

AND Both conditions must be true OR Either condition must be true

NOT Reverses the condition

BETWEEN Between inclusive (includes operators)

LIKE Example: LIKE 'ROM%'

Will locate data that begins with ROM, doesn't matter what follows.

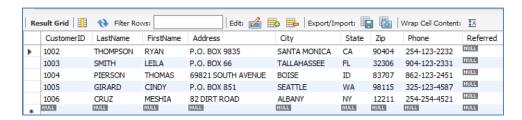
% is the wildcard that represents no characters to any length of characters

_ is the wildcard that represents one and only one character

IN Example: IN('A', 'B', 'C') Will locate data that has A or B or C.

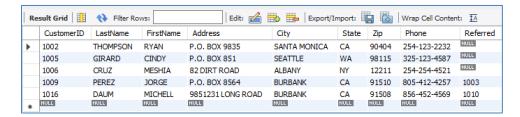
Practice:

```
SELECT *
FROM Customers
WHERE CustomerID BETWEEN 1002 AND 1006;
```

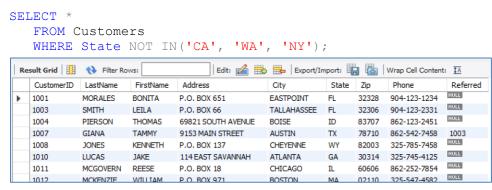


Notice 1002 and 1006 are also included, not just the numbers 'in between' them. That's because the BETWEEN clause is inclusive in MySQL.

```
SELECT *
  FROM Customers
  WHERE State IN('CA', 'WA', 'NY');
```

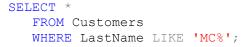


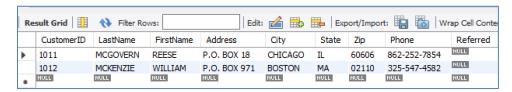
Practice:



Notice the resulting records in this NOT condition are the reverse set of those in the above example without the NOT.

Practice:



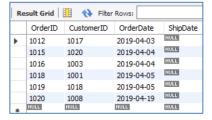


How do I Search for NULL values?

Recall that NULL means there is no value at all. Therefore, you cannot locate NULL using the = operator. You must use the 'IS NULL'. You can use 'IS NOT NULL' to reverse the results.

Practice: View the orders that have not shipped

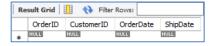
```
SELECT *
  FROM orders
  WHERE ShipDate IS NULL;
```



Notice what happens when you forget and use = NULL instead. This should create an error message but it doesn't. It looks as though it worked and that there are no orders that haven't shipped.

Practice COMMON problem:

```
SELECT *
  FROM orders
  WHERE ShipDate = NULL;
```

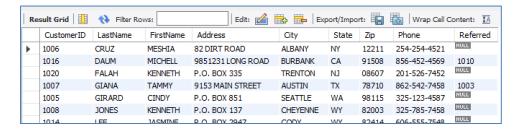


How do I Sort the Results?

As a default, MySQL displays the result in the least costly way to retrieve your records. Frequently that's in the order they were entered into the table. Most of the time however, we need our records displayed in a specific order. Use the ORDER BY clause to specify the order the records should be displayed.

Practice:

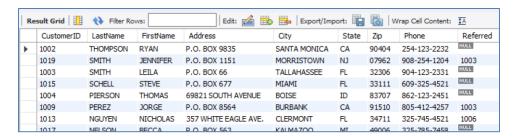
```
SELECT *
  FROM Customers
  ORDER BY LastName, Firstname;
```



To order from greatest to least, add DESC (descending) after the column name.

Practice:

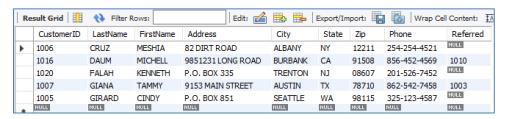
```
SELECT *
  FROM Customers
  ORDER BY LastName DESC, Firstname;
```



How do I Limit the Results to the First 5 Rows?

To limit the results to the first however many, use the LIMIT clause.

```
SELECT *
   FROM Customers
   ORDER BY LastName, Firstname
   LIMIT 5;
```

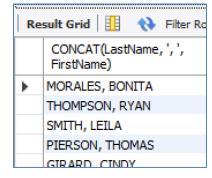


How do I Concatenate?

Use the CONCAT() function to combine text fields and/or literals values. Use single or double quotes around the literal values.

Practice:

```
SELECT CONCAT(LastName, ', ', FirstName)
FROM Customers;
```



Practice:

```
SELECT CONCAT('Full Name: ', LastName, ', ',
FirstName)
    FROM Customers;
```



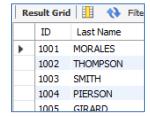
How do I Change the Column Heading?

Column headings normally display as the field names or the expression used. To specify a different column heading, use a column alias. Notice in the last two examples, the column header for the concatenated column is the actual concatenation expression. To indicate a better header, use an alias as shown below. If an alias name contains spaces or special symbols, the name must be enclosed in quotation marks. The 'AS' is actually optional and can be left out. The statement is more readable if the AS keyword is used, so I recommend you use it.

```
SELECT CONCAT(LastName, ', ', FirstName) AS 'Customer Name'
    FROM Customers;

SELECT CustomerID AS ID, LastName AS 'Last Name'
    FROM Customers;
```





How do I Calculate?

Pay attention to the Order of Operation rules when calculations are included, otherwise you'll get unexpected results.

- Arithmetic operations are executed left to right.
- Multiplication and division are solved first, then addition and subtraction.
- This order can be overridden with parenthesis just as in algebra.

Order of Operation Examples:

$$11 + 2 * 3 - 2 = 15$$

 $11 + 2 * (3 - 2) = 13$
 $2 + 8 / 2 * 3 = 14$
 $(2 + 8) / 2 * 3 = 15$

For the first example, remember that multiplication and division are done first, so 2*3 = 6, add that to 11 which gives us 17, and then subtract 2 from it, giving us 15. Addition and subtraction are on the same level, so we perform these left to right, whichever comes first.

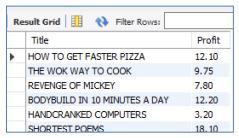
In the second example, parentheses override the order of operation and force the 3-2 to be done first. That's 1, then multiply that by 2, and add that to 11, giving us 13.

In the third example, we have multiplication and division so we do these left to right... 8/2 = 4, *3 = 12, add that to 2 = 14.

And the fourth example, parenthesis forces the 2+8 to be done first, that's 10, divided by 2=5, multiplied by 3=15.

Practice:

SELECT Title, Retail-Cost AS Profit
FROM Books;

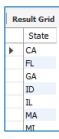


How do I Suppress Duplicates?

If you want to list only the different (distinct) values in a table, use the DISTINCT clause. The DISTINCT clause allows you to suppress duplicates from the result set and return only distinct values.

Practice:

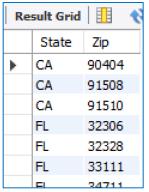
SELECT DISTINCT State FROM Customers ORDER BY State;



Important note: The DISTINCT keyword is applied to all columns in the colomn list

Practice:

SELECT DISTINCT State, Zip FROM Customers ORDER BY State;



Again: The DISTINCT keyword is applied to all columns in the colomn list, even if it doesn't look like it. Notice the () in this practice makes it look like the DISTINCT only applies to State, but the results show it applies to all columns in the column list.

SELECT DISTINCT(State), Zip
FROM Customers
ORDER BY State;

