

LU04a - Syntax of DML

Introduction

As we know, **SQL** stands for **S**tructured **Q**uery **L**anguage. Consequently, It should come as no surprise that SQL is indeed consistently structured.

NOTE

Please note that the use of CAPITAL LETTERS for SQL commands and tabs can make it easier for you to maintain your program code.

The Syntax of DML commands

Every SQL query is composed by three main commands:

- **SELECT** column1, column2, ...
- **FROM** myTable
- **WHERE** myCondition.

With **SELECT** you specify which columns you want to have output; with **FROM** you specify the **TABLE** from which the columns originate; and with **WHERE** you specify the condition under which the data records are selected. Where does not have to occur if there is no condition.

Example

Let us take a table **Customers**, which can be seen in the picture below. To get all information, which are stored in this table, our SQL command would be like below. Please note, that due to no prerequisites the **WHERE** clause is in that case not necessary.

```
SELECT *  
FROM Customers;
```

or as a more detailed notation

```
SELECT CustomerID, CustomerName, ContactName, Address, City, PostalCode,  
Country  
FROM Customers;
```

Vocabulary

English	German
be composed by	besteht aus
notation	Schreibweise



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