

Join (SQL)

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A **join** combines records from two or more tables in a relational database. In the Structured Query Language ([SQL](#)), there are several types of joins, including "inner" and "outer". They all work by linking records on a key field.

The simplest type of join doesn't even use the JOIN keyword. For example, given employee and department tables as follows:

name	dept_id
Smith	34
Jones	33
Robinson	34
Jasper	34
Steinberg	33
Rafferty	31

job	ID
Sales	31
Engineering	33
Clerical	34

Use this SQL statement to join the tables:

```
SELECT name, job
FROM employee, department
WHERE employee.dept_id = department.ID
```

Your result set will be:

name	job
Smith	Clerical
Jones	Engineering
Robinson	Clerical
Jasper	Clerical
Steinberg	Engineering
Rafferty	Sales

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