

PHP 05

WHERE

LIKE

COUNT()

DISTINCT

Based on Rasmus Lerdorf & Kevin Tatroe: Programming PHP. Sebastopol: O'Reilly, 2002; David Lane, Hugh E. Williams: Web Database Application with PHP and MySQL, 2nd Edition. Sebastopol: O'Reilly, 2004; <http://php.net>

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The WHERE Clause

To conditionally select data from a table, a WHERE clause can be added to the SELECT statement.

```
SELECT column FROM table WHERE column operator value
```

With the WHERE clause, the following operators can be used:

= Equal

<> Not equal

> Greater than

< Less than

>= Greater than or equal

<= Less than or equal

BETWEEN Between an inclusive range

LIKE Search for a pattern

Note: In some versions of SQL the <> operator may be written as !=

The LIKE Condition

The `LIKE` condition is used to specify a search for a pattern in a column.

```
SELECT column FROM table WHERE column LIKE pattern
```

A "%" sign can be used to define wildcards (missing letters in the pattern) both before and after the pattern. The following SQL statement will return persons with first names that start with an 'O':

```
SELECT * FROM Persons WHERE FirstName LIKE 'O%'
```

Persons with first names that end with an 'a':

```
SELECT * FROM Persons WHERE FirstName LIKE '%a'
```

Persons with first names that contain the pattern 'la':

```
SELECT * FROM Persons WHERE FirstName LIKE '%la%'
```

The COUNT() Function

The `COUNT (*)` function returns the number of selected rows in a selection.

```
SELECT COUNT(*) FROM table
```

Name	Age
------	-----

Hansen, Ola	34
-------------	----

Svendson, Tove	45
----------------	----

Pettersen, Kari	19
-----------------	----

Returns the number of rows in the table:

```
SELECT COUNT(*) FROM Persons
```

Result: 3

```
SELECT COUNT(*) FROM Persons WHERE Age>20
```

Result: 2

DISTINCT

Suppose we want to find out which different cities our customers live in. The following query shows the cities for all of the customers:

```
SELECT city FROM customer;
```

The problem is that a city name appears more than once if more than one customer lives in that city. What we really want is a list of unique cities that the customers live in.

The `DISTINCT` clause presents only one example of each identical row from a query. We can use it to find out the unique cities the customers live in:

```
SELECT DISTINCT city FROM customer;
```