

UNION operator in SQL Server

This tutorial explains how to use the UNION operator in SQL Server with specific syntax and examples.

The UNION operator is used to combine 2 result sets from 2 or more SELECT statements. It will delete the same rows in these SELECT statements.

Each SELECT in the UNION operator must have the same number of columns in the result set with the corresponding data type.

The UNION operator syntax

```
SE LECT bieu_thuc1, bieu_thuc2, ... bieu_thucn  
FROM bang  
[WHERE dieu_kien]  
UNION  
SELECT bieu_thuc1, bieu_thuc2, ... bieu_thucn  
FROM bang  
[WHERE dieu_kien];
```

Variable name or variable value

bieu_thuc1, bieu_thuc2, . bieu_thucn

The column or calculation value you want to retrieve.

state

Table wants to get the record. Must have at least 1 table in the FROM clause.

WHERE dieu_kien

Option. Conditions must satisfy for the selected record.

Note:

1. 2 SELECT statements must have the same number of expressions
2. The corresponding number of columns in each SELECT statement must have the same data type
3. UNION operator clears duplicate rows.
4. See more UNION ALL operators.

For example - return an information field

For example, the UNION operator returns a field from multiple SELECT statements (and fields with the same data type).

```
SELECT san_pham_id
FROM sanpham
UNION
SELECT sanpham_id
FROM hangtonkho;
```

In the above example, if any san_pham_id appears in both the sanpham and hangtonkho tables, only 1 san_pham_id will appear in the result set. If you do not want to remove the duplicate record, use the UNION ALL operator.

For example - use ORDER BY

The UNION operator can use the ORDER BY clause to sort query results.

```
SELECT danhba_id, danhba_ten
FROM danhba
WHERE ten_trang = 'QuanTriMang.com'
UNION
SELECT congty_id, congty_ten
FROM congty
WHERE ten_trang = 'TrangCuaBan.com'
ORDER BY 2;
```

In this example, because the column name in the two SELECT statements is different, it is easier to refer to the column in the ORDER BY statement by position in the result set. In the above example, we filter the results by danhba_ten / congty_ten in ascending order, as stated by the phrase ORDER BY 2.

danhba_ten / congty_ten is in the second position in the result set.

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