

Use the ALTER DATABASE command to migrate DATABASE in SQL Server

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Technically, you can use the ALTER DATABASE syntax to move any system or user database files that define, initialize, except for the Resource database. To move these data files, you need:

1. Specify the name and path of the file.
2. Full path of new data file.

Note that if you do it this way, you can only move one file at a time. ALTER DATABASE's general structure includes:

1. Find the database name and log file with the command:

```
USE master SELECT name, physical_name FROM sys.master_files WHERE database_id = DB_ID("Personnel");
```

2. Set to OFFLINE mode:

```
ALTER DATABASE Personnel SET offline GO
```

3. Move the file to a new location using the command:

```
ALTER DATABASE Personnel MODIFY FILE (NAME = Personnel_Data, FILENAME = "C:DataPersonnel_Data.mdf") GO
```

4. Repeat the above commands with other data and log files.

5. After finishing, set ONLINE mode with the command:

```
ALTER DATABASE Personnel SET online GO
```

And finally, check the database changes:

```
USE master SELECT name, physical_name FROM sys.master_files WHERE database_id = DB_ID
("Personnel");
```

Or besides, if you want to move data by full-text path, just declare the new path instead of the new path + the file name as usual. The full steps are as follows:

1. Set OFFLINE mode for database by command:

```
ALTER DATABASE database_name SET offline GO
```

2. Move each file one by one:

```
ALTER DATABASE database_name MODIFY FILE (NAME = logical_name, FILENAME =
"new_path". GO
```

3. Do the same with other catalog files.

4. Set the database to ONLINE with the command:

```
ALTER DATABASE database_name SET online GO
```

Some notes to know when using the ALTER DATABASE command, please refer here.*Good luck!*

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