Practical SQL: A Beginner's Guide to Storytelling with Data

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Practical SQL is an approachable and fast-paced guide to SQL (Structured Query Language), the standard programming language for defining, organizing, and exploring data in relational databases. The book focuses on using SQL to find the story your data tells, with the popular open-source database PostgreSQL and the pgAdmin interface as its primary tools.

You'll first cover the fundamentals of databases and the SQL language, then build skills by analyzing data from the U.S. Census and other federal and state government agencies. With exercises and real-world examples in each chapter, this book will teach even those who have never programmed before all the tools necessary to build powerful databases and access information quickly and efficiently.

You'll learn how to:
- Create databases and related tables using your own data
- Define the right data types for your information
- Aggregate, sort, and filter data to find patterns
- Use basic math and advanced statistical functions
- Identify errors in data and clean them up
- Import and export data using delimited text files
- Write queries for geographic information systems (GIS)
- Create advanced queries and automate tasks

Learning SQL doesn't have to be dry and complicated. Practical SQL delivers clear examples with an easy-to-follow approach to teach you the tools you need to build and manage your own databases.

This book uses PostgreSQL, but the SQL syntax is applicable to many database applications, including Microsoft SQL Server and MySQL.
Anthony DeBarros is an award-winning journalist who's combined avid interests in data analysis, coding, software product development, and storytelling for much of his career. He's currently a data news editor for the Wall Street Journal, focusing on topics including the economy, trade, the U.S. Census, and politics. He previously held positions with USA TODAY, the Poughkeepsie Journal, and the DocumentCloud project for Investigative Reporters and Editors.
Other Books
SQL, Are you looking for a dynamic, workable and stable programming language to start your coding journey? Do you want to kick start your career into data management and learn how to create and manipulate complex databases? If you want to learn how to program flexible and powerful databases using SQL quickly and effectively and take your programming skills to the next level, then keep reading... In the era of information technology and ballooning amounts of data, the ability to organize and make sense of data has become a priceless skill to have, especially if you're a programmer. SQL is the perfect language to achieve this goal, as it has well-defined standards, you don't need a lot of coding, keeps your stuff organized and have been around for a long time. In this guide, you're going to be guided through database and table manipulation techniques with a structured, beginner-friendly approach. From basic database queries to advanced

concepts, you're going to discover everything you need to know about becoming an SQL power user. Here's only a snippet of what you're going to uncover in this guide: Everything you need to know about Structured Query Language froma A to Z Why SQL is the perfect language for beginners coding to create and interact with databases How to get started with SQL and step-by-step instructions to install MySQL on your computer Step-by-step instructions to write your very first piece of code with MySQL, phpMyAdmin and SSH Command Line How to create your first database in SQL according to your database needs Basic and advanced database manipulation instructions to help you delete a database, rename a database, backup your database, and more A comprehensive guide to control flow tools to help you carry out advanced business logic using MySQL Common mistakes that beginners in SQL make and how to fix them ...and tons more! Whether you're completely new to programming and are looking for a gentler way to get started or you're a web developer, software engineer, database administrator or Microsoft Office user looking to improve your knowledge of SQL, this guide will definitively help you hit the ground running in no with this powerful language. Scroll up and click the "add to cart" button to buy now!

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