

**userman**

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# Chapter 1

## userman

### 1.1 userman.guide

SQLdb

\*\*\*\*\*

This file documents the March, 1993 alpha version of SQLdb.

Copying  
SQLdb evaluation version is freely  
redistributable

Installation

Getting Started  
Starting SQLdb

Tutorial

Command Shell  
command-line shell

Server Mode

### 1.2 userman.guide/Copying

Copying

\*\*\*\*\*

Copyright 1990-1993 Kyle Saunders

Permission is granted to freely distribute this file in its entirety as part of the SQLdb evaluation package.

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### 1.3 userman.guide/Installation

Installation

\*\*\*\*\*

Copy the main program sqlldb/db to a directory in your executable path. Add the assignment SQLDB: to your user-startup and have it point to a central location for your tables.

SQLdb checks your stack on startup to see that it is at least 70000. This amount of stack is good for two levels of subquery's. Add 25000 or so for each level of subquery beyond that that you intend to use.

### 1.4 userman.guide/Getting Started

Getting Started

\*\*\*\*\*

Command-line options to SQLdb:

Option	Arguments	Default	Meaning
-----	-----	-----	-----
-t	'd' or 'r'	'r'	Temporary table storage
-s	none	NA	Server mode

See

Temporary table  
 . See  
 Server Mode  
 .

### 1.5 userman.guide/Temporary table

Temporary table

=====

Temporary tables are created whenever you give SQL a select query to perform.

The 'r' argument specifies that temporary tables are to be stored in main memory.

The 'd' argument specifies that temporary table are to be stored in the current directory from which SQLdb was started from.

After the query is finished processing, as you might expect, the temporary tables are removed.

## 1.6 userman.guide/Tutorial

Tutorial

\*\*\*\*\*

Introduction

Creating

Adding and Changing

Finishing Up

## 1.7 userman.guide/Introduction

Introduction

=====

The objective of this tutorial is to introduce you to enough SQL commands and concepts to get you started. For a thorough treatment, I would recommend one of the many books on SQL. One such book is `_Using SQL_` by James R. Groff & Paul N. Weinberg, published by McGraw-Hill, ISBN 0-07-881524-X.

The primary function of the SQL language is to support the definition, manipulation, and control of data in a relational database. A relational database is collection of tables. A table is an unordered collection of rows. The terms "file", "record", and "field" in a flat-file database correspond to the relational terms "table", "row", and "column".

In all examples in this tutorial, `'dbcsh>'` is the command-shell prompt and should not be typed.

## 1.8 userman.guide/Creating

Creating

=====

The first thing you need to do is create a database. This is accomplished with the `'CREATE DATABASE'` command:

```
dbcsh> create database tutorial;
```

Now we are ready to create a table to hold our data. The data will be the venerable address book. We will use the `'CREATE TABLE'` command illustrated below:

---

```
dbcsh> create table address_book (person_id integer,
                                first_name char(15),
                                last_name char(40),
                                address char(50),
                                city char(20),
                                state char(2),
                                zip char(9),
                                phone char(11)
                                );
```

As you can see, 'address\_book' is the name of the table. To specify the columns of the table you supply a comma separated list of definitions within parentheses. Each definition consists of the column name and its data type. So 'last\_name' is a character column with a size of 40 characters.

For efficient access to specific data, you will want to create an index on certain columns of your table. Indexes entries must be unique values. So, if you create an index on 'first\_name' and 'last\_name', you cannot have two people with the same first and last names in this table.

Most times you need, for example, the phone number of a certain person.

So you would look them up by their name to find the number. So we will create an index on those columns with the 'CREATE INDEX' command:

```
dbcsh> create index name_idx on address_book (last_name, first_name);
```

A note to non-registered users: You can create indexes and they will be updated properly. However, they will not be used in query optimization to speed up your queries.

## 1.9 userman.guide/Adding and Changing

### Adding and Changing

=====

Now that you have your table, you need to put your data into it. To do this you use the 'INSERT INTO' command:

```
dbcsh> insert into address_book values (1,'Kyle','Saunders',
                                       '4418 N. 4th. Road',
                                       'Arlington','VA',
                                       '22203','5551212'
                                       );
dbcsh> insert into address_book values (2,'John','Smith',
                                       '1234 Outer Join Way',
                                       'Relational','NY',
                                       '12345','5557777'
                                       );
```

We should make sure that the rows we just added are really in the table. The way all rows are retrieved is through the 'SELECT' statement:

```

dbcsh> select * from address_book;
PERSON_ID  FIRST_NAME  LAST_NAME  ADDRESS                    CITY        STATE  ZIP ←
-----  -
PHONE
-----  -
1  Kyle      Saunders  4418 N. 4th. Road        Arlington  VA     ←
22203  5551212
2  John      Smith     1234 Outer Join Way      Relational  NY     ←
12345  5557777

```

Say you forgot where to send the registration fee, so you needed to look up my address. You would use the 'SELECT' command with a 'WHERE' clause:

```

dbcsh> select * from address_book
      where first_name = 'Kyle'
      and last_name = 'Saunders';
PERSON_ID  FIRST_NAME  LAST_NAME  ADDRESS                    CITY        STATE  ZIP ←
-----  -
PHONE
-----  -
1  Kyle      Saunders  4418 N. 4th. Road        Arlington  VA     ←
22203  5551212

```

What if you just realized that 'John Smith''s phone number is wrong? Then you need to update the data in the row. So you would use the 'UPDATE' statement:

```

dbcsh> update address_book set phone='5559876'
      where first_name = 'John'
      and last_name = 'Smith';

```

Now you decide that you no longer want to talk to 'John Smith', so you want to remove him from the table. You would use the 'DELETE FROM' command:

```

dbcsh> delete from address_book
      where first_name = 'John'
      and last_name = 'Smith';

```

## 1.10 userman.guide/Finishing Up

Finishing Up  
=====

To close the database, you simply use the 'CLOSE DATABASE' command:

```
dbcsh> close database;
```

To leave the program, you use the command-shell 'EXIT' command:

```
dbcsh> exit;
```



## 1.11 userman.guide/Command Shell

### Command Shell

\*\*\*\*\*

The command shell is a line oriented user interface. Commands are typed and the results are displayed on the screen. The command shell is similar in operation to the Unix csh(1) program.

Commands may span physical lines. Commands *\*MUST\** be terminated with a semi-colon `;`.

Upon startup, the command shell will attempt to execute commands in the file ``.dbcshrc``. If this file does not exist in the current directory, the command shell will give an error message saying so, and will continue.

The following variables have special meaning to the command shell:

Name	Default	Meaning
---	-----	-----
EDITOR	'vi'	Editor to be used with EDIT COMMAND
PROMPT	'dbcsh>'	Command shell prompt string
HISTORY	25	Number of commands in history buffer

History Substitution

Alias Substitution

Variable Substitution

Commands

## 1.12 userman.guide/History Substitution

History Substitution

=====

Not implemented.

## 1.13 userman.guide/Alias Substitution

Alias Substitution  
=====

Not implemented.

## 1.14 userman.guide/Variable Substitution

Variable Substitution  
=====

Not implemented.

## 1.15 userman.guide/Commands

=====  
Commands

EDIT COMMAND

EXIT

HISTORY

SET

SYSTEM

VERSION

## 1.16 userman.guide/EDIT COMMAND

EDIT COMMAND  
-----

`EDIT COMMAND' HISTORY-NUMBER

The edit command command lets you edit the specified command using the editor specified by the EDITOR variable.

## 1.17 userman.guide/EXIT

---

---

EXIT

----

``EXIT``

The exit command will exit you from the command shell. All open tables will be closed for you when you exit.

If you have an open cursor, you will receive an error message and the program will not exit.

## 1.18 userman.guide/HISTORY

HISTORY

-----

``HISTORY``

The history command displays a list of the history buffer. Each entry consists of the history number and the command text.

## 1.19 userman.guide/SET

SET

----

``SET` [ VARIABLE-NAME = VARIABLE-VALUE ]`

The set command lets you store values in command shell variables that can be used later. If the arguments to set are omitted, a listing of all variables and values is produced.

## 1.20 userman.guide/SYSTEM

SYSTEM

-----

``SYSTEM` SYSTEM-COMMAND`

The system command allow you to execute a system command, such as ``dir`` or ``ls``, without having to leave SQLdb.

---

## 1.21 userman.guide/VERSION

VERSION  
-----

``VERSION'`

The version command displays the current version and any other pertinent information.

## 1.22 userman.guide/Server Mode

Server mode

\*\*\*\*\*

When started up in Server Mode, SQLdb will open up an ARexx port called `'SQLserver'` and await commands from the port.

`ExecSQL`

`ShutdownSQL`

`GetLastCode`

`GetLastErrMsg`

## 1.23 userman.guide/ExecSQL

`ExecSQL`  
=====

`''' `ExecSQL' ''' SQL-COMMAND-STRING; '''`

`'ExecSQL'` will send the given command to the interpreter to be executed. If the command is a fetch from a cursor, the result variable will contain the fetched row.

## 1.24 userman.guide/ShutdownSQL

`ShutdownSQL`  
=====

`''' `ShutdownSQL' '''`

---

ShutdownSQL will tell SQLdb to close the ARexx port and quit. The command will fail if there are any open tables or cursors.

## 1.25 userman.guide/GetLastCode

GetLastCode  
=====

```
'''GetLastCode'''
```

Will put the result code from the last command into the result variable.

## 1.26 userman.guide/GetLastErrMsg

GetLastErrMsg  
=====

```
'''GetLastErrMsg'''
```

Will put the error message from the last command into the result variable.

---