

SQL SERVER – FOUR-PART OBJECT NAMES

Generally it is considered good practice using two-part names for objects. It make the code more readable and avoids confusion if objects with similar names exists in different schemas. Some features requires that two-part naming must be used such as creating a view [WITH SCHEMABINDING](#).

However, you can also use a four-part name to refer objects. **Four-part** object reference format consists of:

<< Server.Database.Schema.Object >>

Only object name is required to reference an object, (*schema name when the object is not in user's default schema*) all else is optional.

For example, all statements below will work in **SQL Server**:

```
USE msdb
/* Four-part name */
SELECT Name FROM VGAJJAR2.msdb.dbo.backupset
/* Server name omitted */
SELECT Name FROM msdb.dbo.backupset
/* Server/database name omitted */
SELECT Name FROM dbo.backupset
/* Server/database/schema name omitted,
only default schema name can be omitted */
SELECT Name FROM backupset
/* And this works too... */
SELECT Name FROM ...backupset
SELECT Name FROM ..dbo.backupset
SELECT Name FROM .msdb.dbo.backupset
SELECT Name FROM .msdb..backupset
```

Hope This Helps!