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**Article:** Insert multiple records using T-SQL

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# **SQL Server – Insert Multiple Records Using One Insert Statement**

*This is very interesting question I have received from new developer. How can I insert multiple values in table using only one insert?*

Now this is interesting question. When there are multiple records are to be inserted in the table following is the common way using **T-SQL**.

USE YourDB

GO

INSERT INTO MyTable (FirstCol, SecondCol)

VALUES ('First',1);

INSERT INTO MyTable (FirstCol, SecondCol)

VALUES ('Second',2);

INSERT INTO MyTable (FirstCol, SecondCol)

VALUES ('Third',3);

INSERT INTO MyTable (FirstCol, SecondCol)

VALUES ('Fourth',4);

INSERT INTO MyTable (FirstCol, SecondCol)

VALUES ('Fifth',5);

GO

The clause **INSERT INTO** is repeated multiple times. Many times **DBA** copy and paste it to save time. There is another alternative to this, which I use frequently.

I use **UNION ALL** and **INSERT INTO** … **SELECT**… clauses. Regarding performance there is not much difference.

If there is performance difference it does not matter as I use this for one time insert script. I enjoy writing this way, as it keeps me focus on task, instead of copy paste. I have explained following script to new developer.

He was quite pleased.

USE YourDB

GO

INSERT INTO MyTable (FirstCol, SecondCol)

SELECT 'First' ,1

UNION ALL

SELECT 'Second' ,2

UNION ALL

SELECT 'Third' ,3

UNION ALL

SELECT 'Fourth' ,4

UNION ALL

SELECT 'Fifth' ,5

GO

The effective result is same.