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**Article:** Retrieve Current Date Time

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**SQL Server - Retrieve Current Date Time with CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP, GETDATE(), {fn NOW()}**

There are three ways to retrieve the current datetime in **SQL SERVER.**

*CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP, GETDATE(), {fn NOW()}*

**CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP**

**CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP** is a nondeterministic [gs function]. Views and expressions that reference this column cannot be indexed. **CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP** can be used to print the current date and time every time that the report is produced.

**GETDATE()**

**GETDATE** is a nondeterministic function. *Views* and *expressions* that reference this column cannot be indexed. **GETDATE** can be used to print the current date and time every time that the report is produced.

[tab:{fn Now()}]

**{fn Now()}**

The **{fn Now()}** is an **ODBC** canonical [gs function] which can be used in **T-SQL** since the OLE DB provider for SQL Server supports them. **{fn Now()}** can be used to print the current date and time every time that the report is produced.

If you run following script in **Query Analyzer**. I will give you same results. If you see execution plan there is no performance difference. It is same for all the three select statement.

SELECT CURRENT\_TIMESTAMP   
GO   
SELECT {fn NOW()}   
GO   
SELECT GETDATE()   
GO   
  
**Performance:**   
There is absolutely no difference in using any of them.

As they are absolutely same.

**My Preference:**   
I like **GETDATE()**.

Why? Why bother when they are same!!!