


Formatting SQL

Only in DbVisualizer Pro

 This feature is only available in the DbVisualizer Pro edition.

The **SQL->Format SQL** menu contains four operations for formatting SQL statements.

Format Buffer formats the complete editor content and **Format Current** formats the current SQL (at cursor position).

The formatting is done according to the settings defined in the Tool Properties dialog, in the **SQL Editor/SQL Formatting** category under the General tab. There are many things you can configure. After making some changes, press **Apply** and format again to see the result.

Here is an example of an SQL statement before formatting:

```
select
CompanyName, ContactName, Address,
City, Country, PostalCode from
Northwind.dbo.Customers OuterC
where CustomerID in (select top 2 InnerC.CustomerId
from Northwind.dbo.[Order Details] OD
join Northwind.dbo.Orders O on OD.OrderId = O.OrderID
join Northwind.dbo.Customers InnerC
on O.CustomerID = InnerC.CustomerId
Where Region = OuterC.Region
group by Region, InnerC.CustomerId
order by sum(UnitPrice * Quantity * (1-Discount)) desc)
order by Region
```

And here is the same statement after formatting has been applied with default settings:

```
SELECT
    CompanyName,
    ContactName,
    Address,
    City,
    Country,
    PostalCode
FROM
    Northwind.dbo.Customers OuterC
WHERE
    CustomerID in
    (
        SELECT
            top 2 InnerC.CustomerId
        FROM
            Northwind.dbo.[ORDER Details] OD
        JOIN
            Northwind.dbo.Orders O
            ON
            OD.OrderId = O.OrderID
        JOIN
            Northwind.dbo.Customers InnerC
            ON
            O.CustomerID = InnerC.CustomerId
    )
WHERE
    Region = OuterC.Region
GROUP BY
    Region,
    InnerC.CustomerId
ORDER BY
    SUM(UnitPrice * Quantity * (1-Discount)) DESC
ORDER BY
    Region
```

Copy Formatted and **Paste Formatted** are powerful tools for copying SQL statements between programs written in languages like Java, C#, PHP, VB, etc. and the SQL Editor. Both operations display a dialog where you can adjust some of the formatting options, most importantly the **Target SQL** option and the **SQL is Between** option. **Target SQL** can be set to a number of common programming language formats.

For instance, to copy an SQL statement and paste it as Java code for adding it to a Java StringBuffer:

1. Select the statement,
2. Choose **SQL->Format SQL->Copy Formatted**,
3. Set **Target SQL** to Java StringBuffer,
4. Click **Format** to place the formatted statement on the system clipboard,
5. Paste it into your Java code.

To copy a statement wrapped in code from a program:

1. Select the code containing an SQL statement in your program,
2. Copy it to the system clipboard,
3. Choose **SQL->Format SQL->Paste Formatted**,
4. Check **SQL is Between** and enter the character enclosing the SQL statement in the code,
5. Click **Format** to extract the SQL statement and paste the formatted SQL in the editor.