

# SQL - NULL VALUES

<http://www.tutorialspoint.com/sql/sql-null-values.htm>

Copyright © tutorialspoint.com

The SQL **NULL** is the term used to represent a missing value. A NULL value in a table is a value in a field that appears to be blank.

A field with a NULL value is a field with no value. It is very important to understand that a NULL value is different than a zero value or a field that contains spaces.

## Syntax:

The basic syntax of **NULL** while creating a table:

```
SQL> CREATE TABLE CUSTOMERS(  
  ID      INT              NOT NULL,  
  NAME    VARCHAR (20)     NOT NULL,  
  AGE     INT              NOT NULL,  
  ADDRESS CHAR (25)        ,  
  SALARY  DECIMAL (18, 2),  
  PRIMARY KEY (ID)  
);
```

Here, **NOT NULL** signifies that column should always accept an explicit value of the given data type. There are two columns where we did not use NOT NULL, which means these columns could be NULL.

A field with a NULL value is one that has been left blank during record creation.

## Example:

The NULL value can cause problems when selecting data, however, because when comparing an unknown value to any other value, the result is always unknown and not included in the final results.

You must use the **IS NULL** or **IS NOT NULL** operators in order to check for a NULL value.

Consider the following table, CUSTOMERS having the following records:

ID	NAME	AGE	ADDRESS	SALARY
1	Ramesh	32	Ahmedabad	2000.00
2	Khilan	25	Delhi	1500.00
3	kaushik	23	Kota	2000.00
4	Chaitali	25	Mumbai	6500.00
5	Hardik	27	Bhopal	8500.00
6	Komal	22	MP	
7	Muffy	24	Indore	

Now, following is the usage of **IS NOT NULL** operator:

```
SQL> SELECT ID, NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY  
FROM CUSTOMERS  
WHERE SALARY IS NOT NULL;
```

This would produce the following result:

ID	NAME	AGE	ADDRESS	SALARY
1	Ramesh	32	Ahmedabad	2000.00
2	Khilan	25	Delhi	1500.00

3	kaushik	23	Kota	2000.00
4	Chaitali	25	Mumbai	6500.00
5	Hardik	27	Bhopal	8500.00

Now, following is the usage of **IS NULL** operator:

```
SQL> SELECT ID, NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY
      FROM CUSTOMERS
      WHERE SALARY IS NULL;
```

This would produce the following result:

ID	NAME	AGE	ADDRESS	SALARY
6	Komal	22	MP	
7	Muffy	24	Indore	