



A select statement will display records in the order in which they were inserted into the table, this order is not always appropriate to display, therefore selections can be sequenced by any of the table columns using the order by command

```
select <column_name>  
from <table_name>  
order by <column_name>;
```

The default order sequence is ascending alphanumeric. To change it to descending, *desc* can be added to the end of the order by clause

```
order by <column_name> desc;
```



When using the order by command, the column name can be substituted by its position in the select statement .. In this example the sort sequence is based on the third column ...

*order by 3;*

This is particularly useful when a complex function has been applied to a column and the User wishes to sequence on the result of the Function rather than the original contents

## Simple Queries - Ordering More than One Column

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To order by more than one column, separate each column name with a comma ..

```
select si_stock_number  
from stock_information  
order by si_stock_number  
        , si_stock_description;
```