



In this section the User will learn...

- How to order data in the SQL Worksheet



A previous section dealt with using Order by in the Data Tab filter, essentially Order By can be used in much the same way in the SQL Worksheet, by placing it after the 'where' clause, 'order by' can be used to change the sequencing of the data.

```
select <column_name1>  
      , <column_name2>  
from <table_name>  
where <column_name1> = ' <value> '  
and   <column_name2> = '<value>'  
order by <column_name1>
```



Ordering Data – Advanced Techniques

One problem which Users might experience is that the ordering will not reflect the changes made to the columns using functions etc ...
for example ...

The screenshot shows the SQL Developer interface. The top pane is the 'Query Builder' window, which contains the following SQL query:

```
select decode(c65_location_id, 3, 'Glasgow', 6, 'London', 'Unknown') as "Locations"  
from club_65  
order by c65_location_id
```

The bottom pane is the 'Query Result' window, which displays the results of the query. The results are as follows:

Locations
1 Unknown
2 Unknown
3 Unknown
4 Glasgow
5 Glasgow
6 Unknown
7 Unknown
8 Unknown
9 Unknown
10 London

Ordering Data – Advanced Techniques



To get round this problem the User can refer to the physical position of the column in the select statement (in this case, position 1), therefore the previous statement becomes ...

The screenshot shows the SQL Developer interface. The top pane is the Query Builder, containing the following SQL query:

```
select decode(c65_location_id, 3, 'Glasgow', 6, 'London', 'Unknown') as "Locations"
from club_65
order by 1
```

The bottom pane is the Query Result window, showing the results of the query. The results are displayed in a table with the following data:

Locations
1 Glasgow
2 Glasgow
3 London
4 London
5 London
6 Unknown
7 Unknown

Ordering Data – Using Decode in Order By



Decode has been previously introduced as a Function which can change the original value of the column to one more acceptable to the User. Decode can also be used to perform an alternative ordering of the Data. This is achieved by taking the existing value of a column and assigning it a numeric value and ordering by that, in this way the User can order data in a way not dictated by the alphabet.

In the following example, the User has ordered the Home Counties locations before any of the Provinces ...

Ordering Data – Using Decode in Order By



The screenshot shows the SQL Developer interface. The top pane, titled 'Query Builder', contains the following SQL query:

```
select sl_location_name as "Location"
from store_locations
order by decode(sl_location_name, 'WEST NORWOOD', 2
, 'WIMBLEDON', 3
, 'CROYDON', 1
, 'GLOUCESTER', 66)
```

The bottom pane, titled 'Query Result', shows the results of the query. It indicates that 50 rows were fetched in 0.031 seconds. The results are displayed in a table with one column named 'Location'.

Location
1 CROYDON
2 WEST NORWOOD
3 WIMBLEDON
4 GLOUCESTER
5 BURY