The SQL UNION Operator

The SQL UNION operator combines the result of two or more SELECT statements.
The UNION operator is used to combine the result-set of two or more SELECT statements.

Notice that each SELECT statement within the UNION must have the same number of columns. The columns must also have similar data types. Also, the columns in each SELECT statement must be in the same order.

Note: The UNION operator selects only distinct values by default. To allow duplicate values, use the ALL keyword with UNION.

SQL UNION Syntax

```
SELECT column_name(s) FROM table1
UNION
SELECT column_name(s) FROM table2;
```

SQL> select * from customers;

```
CUSTOMER_ID CUSTOMER_NAME           CONTACT_NAME
----------- ------------------------ --------------------
ADDRESS              CITY              POSTAL_CODE
-------------------- ------------------- -----------
          1 Alfreds Futterkiste      Maria Anders
CHandigarh           Berlin                 12345

          2 Riya                   Singh
Mohali               Punjab                 23456

          3 Sonam                  Gupta
Panchkula            Haryana                65745
```

SQL> select * from suppliers;

```
SUPPLIER_ID SUPPLIER_NAME        CONTACT_NAME
----------- -------------------- ------------------------
ADDRESS                  CITY                POSTAL_CODE
------------------------ -------------------- -----------
          1 Rohit                Kumar
Sonepat                  Delhi                54673

          2 Mohit                Singla
Noida                    UP                   6453

          3 Kirti                Kumari
Jaipur                   Rajasthan            98345


SUPPLIER_ID SUPPLIER_NAME        CONTACT_NAME
----------- -------------------- ------------------------
ADDRESS                  CITY                POSTAL_CODE
------------------------ -------------------- -----------
          4 Meera                Seth
Mohali                   Punjab               7634
```

UNION

```
SQL> select city from customers
  union
  select city from suppliers;

CITY
--------------------
Berlin
Delhi
Haryana
Punjab
Rajasthan
UP

6 rows selected.
```

UNION ALL

SQL UNION Syntax

```
SELECT column_name(s) FROM table1
UNION ALL
SELECT column_name(s) FROM table2;
```

SQL> select city from customers
union all
select city from suppliers;

CITY

Berlin
Punjab
Haryana
Delhi
UP
Rajasthan
Punjab

7 rows selected.

INTERSECT

SQL> select customer_id from customers
intersect
select supplier_id from suppliers;

CUSTOMER_ID

1
2
3

MINUS:-

Example:- The following statement combines results with the `MINUS` operator, which returns only unique rows returned by the first query but not by the second:

```
SELECT product_id FROM inventories
MINUS
SELECT product_id FROM order_items;
```