

CS 328 SQL and PL/SQL Coding Standards so far

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- THOU SHALT precede each PL/SQL subroutine with an opening comment block that includes at least:
 - the subroutine's name
 - a purpose statement which explicitly describes what the subroutine expects (for a trigger, describe when it is fired), and what it does and/or returns
- THOU SHALT put a blank line before and after each `SELECT` statement, before and after each PL/SQL subroutine, and usually before each multi-line SQL statement, for better readability. And logically group SQL*Plus statements within a script as well.
- THOU SHALT write a `SELECT` statement's `FROM` clause on its OWN line.
- THOU SHALT write the beginning of a `SELECT` statement's `WHERE` clause on its OWN line.
- THOU SHALT indent nested selects by at least 4 spaces.
- When a `SELECT` statement has N tables/relations in its `FROM` clause (OR for joins written using the `INNER JOIN` syntax), THOU SHALT have (N-1) join conditions (unless one REALLY, TRULY wants a true Cartesian product, a rare occurrence...).
- THOU SHALT use mnemonic table aliases (d and e for tables dept and emp1, for example, not x and y...).
- THOU SHALT only use `GROUP BY` clauses when one has a good reason (usually a computation that you wish done to those groups).
- THOU SHALT only use `ORDER BY` clauses for an outermost `SELECT` (not within any sub-selects), and it shall be indented to make clear that it "belongs" to the outermost `SELECT`.