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 empl, 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.