

SQL Basics

Computing

The clauses of a SELECT, in written order and in the order they run.

Written order on the left; the order the database actually evaluates them on the right.

Written	Runs	Does
SELECT	5th	Chooses columns
FROM	1st	Chooses tables
JOIN	2nd	Combines them
WHERE	3rd	Filters rows
GROUP BY	4th	Collapses into groups
HAVING	4th (after)	Filters groups
ORDER BY	6th	Sorts the result
LIMIT	7th	Caps the rows

You cannot use a SELECT alias in WHERE, because WHERE runs first. You can use it in ORDER BY, which runs later.