

The USING Clause

When utilizing outer joins in Ingres 2006, it is possible to specify a new "USING" clause, instead of the more complex "ON" clause.

The only caveat is that in order for this to work the tables being joined must have identical column names for the join columns. That is a best practice anyway but could be an issue at some sites.

```
-- SQL written with the old 'ON' clause.
```

```
SELECT pro.owner_id, pro.property_id, pro.town, fla.number_of_beds
FROM   property pro
LEFT JOIN
      flat fla
ON     pro.property_id = fla.property_id
AND    pro.owner_id = fla.owner_id
WHERE  fla.number_of_beds IS NOT NULL;
```

owner_id	property_i	town	number_of_bed
IJKL9012	FLT001	London	2
IJKL9012	FLT002	London	3
IJKL9012	FLT003	London	2
XYZZ9999	ANNEX	Epsom	1

(4 rows)

```
-- As you see, the new version is easier to use and understand.
```

```
SELECT pro.owner_id, pro.property_id, pro.town, fla.number_of_beds
FROM   property pro
LEFT JOIN
      flat fla
USING  (property_id, owner_id)
WHERE  fla.number_of_beds IS NOT NULL;
```

owner_id	property_i	town	number_of_bed
IJKL9012	FLT001	London	2
IJKL9012	FLT002	London	3
IJKL9012	FLT003	London	2
XYZZ9999	ANNEX	Epsom	1

(4 rows)

Note that multiple column names allowed, increasing the benefit of the "USING" clause. For example:

```
USING (col1, col2, col3...)
```

[Back to SQL Tips Page](#)