

## Re: WHERE clause applies to right-hand table of LEFT JOIN

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- > Yes, this is often true. However, in my case T2 is constrained by a foreign
- > key relationship to T1. This means that every record in T1 must have one
- or
- > more records in T2. This being the case, the exact same result set is
- > returned regardless of whether T1 or T2 is on the LEFT of this OUTER join.
- > (And an INNER JOIN would also yield the same result set.)

But you may get different results with different data as demonstrated by the example below. Like Tibor mentioned, it's always best to specify INNER JOIN unless you have a reason to do otherwise.

```
CREATE TABLE T1
(
  T1_PK int NOT NULL
  CONSTRAINT PK_T1 PRIMARY KEY,
  T1A int NOT NULL,
  T1B int
)

CREATE TABLE T2
(
  T2_PK int NOT NULL
  CONSTRAINT PK_T2 PRIMARY KEY,
  T2A int NULL
  CONSTRAINT FK_T2_T1 FOREIGN KEY
  (T2A) REFERENCES T1(T1_PK),
  T2B int
)

CREATE INDEX T2_T2A ON T2(T2A)
CREATE INDEX T2_T2B ON T2(T2B)

INSERT INTO T1 VALUES(1,1,1)
INSERT INTO T1 VALUES(2,2,2)
INSERT INTO T2 VALUES(1,1,1)
```

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```
SELECT T1.T1A,  
       T1.T1B,  
       T2.T2A,  
       T2.T2B  
FROM T1  
LEFT JOIN T2 ON T2.T2A = T1.T1A
```

```
SELECT T1.T1A,  
       T1.T1B,  
       T2.T2A,  
       T2.T2B  
FROM T1  
INNER JOIN T2 ON T2.T2A = T1.T1A
```

> *Since we're currently migrating to SQL Server, I suppose I should use the  
> query analyzer to see how this would behave against SQL Server. (Since I  
> made the change which I mentioned for Interbase, the issue is no longer  
> pressing.) If I get a chance to analyze this further I'll report back to  
the  
> group.*

The SQL Se