

# RE: Aggregates, Joins, I am totally stuck on this issue

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.queries/2005-05/msg00747.html>

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- *From:* ken <[ken@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ken@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 10 May 2005 06:12:06 -0700
- 

That is weird.. you mean if you reference the field from the "right" table in a left outer join it makes it an inner join? That would make access' solution for finding non-matching records between two table not work. Ya know, you tell it to find the records in one table that arent in another, so it does a join and checks that the id field from the "right" table equals null...

Thanks for the hint

k

"ChrisJ" wrote:

- > One thing you should check.
- > If you are testing a field in a table on the "outer" side of a left join
- > (for example, in a where clause) access will do an inner join instead of a
- > left join. This could explain your missing records
- >
- > "ken" wrote:
- >
- >> I have got a weird problem, quite possibly the answer is "anything that
- >> complicated should be done in SQL Server, not access," but I will ask anyway
- >> because I am stuck working in access for now.
- >>
- >> I am trying to create a data mart (or data warehouse) with a central summary
- >> table. The table has a 8 part unique key and about 10 currency fields. I
- >> actually made a seperate autonumber primary key, but the 8 part key is the
- >> logical key of the table although 3 of the fields can be null.
- >>
- >> For speed reasons I am trying to fill most of the information using append
- >> queries rather than looping through the recordset using VBA code and doing
- >> each insert/update. So, I have two aggregate queries which are grouped on
- >> the 8 part key and I want to join these two together into a single select
- >> query and then create an append query which puts the results of this master
- >> query into the table. One of the queries will have 3 of the fields null all
- >> the time, the other will have some rows with all 8 filled in, and some with 3
- >> null and 5 with values. So, I join the queries together in a new query with

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>> a LEFT OUTER JOIN and run it and what do it get? NOT what i should, there are  
>> a bunch of records missing. So, I figure it's the null values so i use the  
>> nz(field,default) function to turn the possibly null fields into 0's or empty  
>> strings depending on data type and try it again. I am still getting back  
>> only records where the 3 optional fields are empty (string or 0).  
>>  
>> It is like access is refusing to do a left join and forcing it to be an  
>> inner join..??  
>> I am a pretty decent developer so I am pretty sure it is not something  
>> totally obvious.. I am just seeing some really weird behavior from access on  
>> this.  
>>  
>> I do not know if it is a problem with joining queries that are themselves  
>> aggregate queries.. or if access has some kind of SERIOUS problem with doing  
>> joins on fields that can be null, even if you use nz() to alter the value to  
>> a non-null substitute.  
>>  
>> I am quite stuck on this and looping through to insert/update each record  
>> makes the process take 90 minutes instead of 20 minutes so if you can help I  
>> would really appreciate it. If you have done anything like this in access  
>> before, feel free to offer any advice you might have.  
>>  
>> Thanks

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• **Follow-Ups:**

- ◆ **[RE: Aggregates, Joins, I am totally stuck on this issue](#)**  
◇ From: ChrisJ

• **References:**

- ◆ **[Aggregates, Joins, I am totally stuck on this issue](#)**  
◇ From: ken
- ◆ **[RE: Aggregates, Joins, I am totally stuck on this issue](#)**  
◇ From: ChrisJ

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