

# Re: Linked Server: How to check if server exists?

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/SQL-Server/microsoft.public.sqlserver.connect/2008-12/msg00020.html>

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- *From:* "Rick Byham, \(\MSFT\)" <[rickbyh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:rickbyh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 3 Dec 2008 13:38:43 -0800
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I adapted this from the object explorer scripting feature.  
The root problem is described in the Books Online topic Batches.

### Rules for Using Batches

The following rules apply to using batches:

– CREATE DEFAULT, CREATE FUNCTION, CREATE PROCEDURE, CREATE RULE, CREATE SCHEMA, CREATE TRIGGER, and CREATE VIEW statements cannot be combined with other statements in a batch.

I don't have a way around that.

—

Rick Byham (MSFT), SQL Server Books Online

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"Axel Dahmen" <[keentoknow@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:keentoknow@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:u3EUxdXVJHA.3908@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:u3EUxdXVJHA.3908@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Thanks, Rick, for trying to help.

Unfortunately putting the Stored Procedure in a string will lose all IntelliSense features and colour highlighting, plus all strings will have to be escaped.

Do you perhaps have some other solution at hand?

TIA,

[www.axeldahmen.de](http://www.axeldahmen.de)

Axel Dahmen

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"Rick Byham, (MSFT)" <[rickbyh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:rickbyh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> schrieb im Newsbeitrag [news:4A81D37A-14CD-47BB-AA01-16FB9F22FCF0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:4A81D37A-14CD-47BB-AA01-16FB9F22FCF0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

This should get you started:

```
IF EXISTS (SELECT name FROM sys.servers WHERE name = N'linkedserver')
BEGIN
```

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```
EXEC dbo.sp_executesql @statement = N'CREATE PROCEDURE dbo.ExportToSMS
AS
SELECT * FROM [linkedserver].[db].[schema].[table]'
END
ELSE
PRINT 'No such linked server.'
```

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"Axel Dahmen" <keentoknow@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:Oxio\\$AVVJHA.2928@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:Oxio$AVVJHA.2928@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hi,

in our development project not all of use have a linked server entry at our local SQL Server installations.

At compile time we're running a couple of SQL scripts to update our local databases.

Unfortunately the Stored Procedures containing statements addressing a linked server don't run on those development machines not having that linked server entry yet.

Now I'd like to know if it is possible to conditionally have the CREATE PROCEDURE statement run, depending on a condition.

The following doesn't work:

```
-----
IF EXISTS (SELECT NULL FROM sys.servers WHERE name = N'linkedserver')
BEGIN
CREATE PROCEDURE dbo.ExportToSMS
AS
SELECT * FROM [linkedserver].[db].[schema].[table]
END
-----
```

even the following doesn't work:

```
-----
CREATE PROCEDURE dbo.ExportToSMS
AS
IF EXISTS (SELECT NULL FROM sys.servers WHERE name = N'linkedserver')
BEGIN
SELECT * FROM [linkedserver].[db].[schema].[table]
END
-----
```

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Can someone please enlighten me on how to achieve a conditional CREATE PROCEDURE?

TIA,  
[www.axeldahmen.de](http://www.axeldahmen.de)  
Axel Dahmen