

## Re: Question about performance of an update statement

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/SQL-Server/microsoft.public.sqlserver.programming/2004-05/2394.html>

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**From:** Louis Davidson (*dr\_dontspamme\_sql\_at\_hotmail.com*)

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Indexes both help and hurt updates. The following method is not 100% perfect, but it is a good way to think and to test your UPDATE (or DELETE) queries.

First take your FROM clause down:

```
FROM table1
WHERE table1.value = 100
```

Add

SELECT table1.\* (if you have a complex from, then put the table from the UPDATE clause)

and run this query. The output are the rows that will be updated. If this query uses an index, or indexes, then these are the helpful indexes because they help you to find the set to be operated on.

All other indexes may be harmful to your update performance in some manner as if you modify the data they may have to be rearranged or added to. This may be of varying amounts of cost, depending on the index page(s) that will be affected. Worst case all indexes will have completely full pages and will require page splits. This is unlikely on an ongoing basis. Best case, the new value is just changed directly on the pages if it is the same size, or it will fit on the same page.

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<http://www.apress.com/book/bookDisplay.html?bID=266>

Note: Please reply to the newsgroups only unless you are interested in consulting services. All other replies will be ignored :)

"Uri Dimant" <[urid@iscar.co.il](mailto:urid@iscar.co.il)> wrote in message

news:uJjnUa1NEHA.2972@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl...

> Learner

> How big is your table which you are going to update?

> What is an indexes defined on the table?

>

microsoft.public.sqlserver.programming: Re: Question about performance of an update statement

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>
> The rule of thumb keep your transaction short in small batches.
> Yes , indexes may affect performance during the update ,especially if you
> update a primary key (with CLI)of the table.
> I'd go with scripting out all indexes before performing an update and
> applying them after that.
>
>
>
>
> "Learner" <wantnospam@email.com> wrote in message
> news:MPG.1b0abaf47e6bdbac989724@msnews.microsoft.com...
> > Hi,
> >
> > I have a simple update statement but it seems to be taking forever in
> > Query Analyzer. My questions are:
> >
> > 1) Shoudl there be any performance difference if I execute the above
> > update statement from Query Analyzer or via a DTS (i.e. by executing a
> > 'SQL TASK')
> >
> > 2) How is the execution
```