

## RE: Need some help with simple search query

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/SQL-Server/microsoft.public.sqlserver.programming/2004-07/3181.html>

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There are two ways you can do this:

1st and the preferred way is to write out all the tedious logic

```
IF @v_variable1 IS NOT NULL
```

```
BEGIN -- 1 is not null
```

```
IF @v_variable2 IS NOT NULL
```

```
BEGIN -- 2 is not null
```

```
IF @v_variable3 IS NOT NULL
```

```
BEGIN -- 3 is not null
```

```
SELECT whatever
```

```
FROM whatever
```

```
WHERE column1 = @v_variable1
```

```
AND column2 = @v_variable2
```

```
AND column3 = @v_variable3
```

```
END -- 3 is not null
```

```
ELSE
```

```
BEGIN -- 3 is null
```

```
SELECT whatever
```

```
FROM whatever
```

```
WHERE column1 = @v_variable1
```

```
AND column2 = @v_variable2
```

```
END -- 3 is null
```

```
END -- 2 is not null
```

```
ELSE
```

```
BEGIN -- 2 is null
```

```
SELECT whatever
```

```
FROM whatever
```

```
WHERE column1 = @v_variable1
```

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END -- 2 is null

END -- 1 is not null

```
IF @v_variable1 IS NULL AND @v_variable2 IS NOT NULL
BEGIN
    and so forth and so forth.....
```

2nd way (and I would only recomend this if the query is going against a small result set)

```
DECLARE @v_select NVARCHAR(2000),
        @v_where NVARCHAR(2000)
```

```
SELECT @v_select =
    'SELECT Whatever ' + CHAR(13) +
    'FROM whatever',
    @v_where = "
```

```
IF @v_variable1 IS NOT NULL
BEGIN
    SELECT @v_where = @v_where + 'AND col1 = @v_variable1' + CHAR(13) + ''
END
```

```
IF @v_variable2 IS NOT NULL
BEGIN
    SELECT @v_where = @v_where + 'AND col1 = @v_variable2' + CHAR(13) + ''
END
```

and so forth and so forth until you get through all the variables, then

```
SELECT @v_select = @v_select + STUFF(@v_where, 1, 3, 'WHERE')
```

```
EXEC dbo.sp_executesql @v_select
```

"Drew" wrote:

```
> I have the following query,
>
> SELECT CA.RegNo, CA.ApptDoctor, CA.ApptDate, CA.ApptTime, CA.ApptNotes,
> AC.ApptCatName, C.CliLName, C.CliMM, C.CliFName
> FROM CliDrAppts.dbo.tblCliAppts CA INNER JOIN CliCore.dbo.tblClients C ON
> CA.RegNo = C.RegNo INNER JOIN tblCliApptCat AC ON CA.ApptCatID =
> AC.ApptCatID
>
> This joins all the tables I need and now I need to get some WHERE clauses in
> there. I have a page that has 4 form elements on it, a dropdown with all
> the months in it, a dropdown with years in it (from 2004 to 2020), a dynamic
> dropdown with Resident's names and a dynamic dropdown with Appointment
> Categories. I am having problems with this because if you omit one of these
> search criteria, then it doesn't return any results. Here is my new query,
>
```

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```
> SELECT CA.RegNo, CA.ApptDoctor, CA.ApptDate, CA.ApptTime, CA.ApptNotes,  
> AC.ApptCatName, C.CliLName, C.CliMM, C.CliFName  
> FROM CliDrAppts.dbo.tblCliAppts CA INNER JOIN CliCore.dbo.tblClients C ON  
> CA.RegNo = C.RegNo INNER JOIN tblCliApptCat AC ON CA.ApptCatID =  
> AC.ApptCatID  
> WHERE LEFT(ApptDate,2) = var1 AND RIGHT(ApptDate,4) = var2 AND CA.ApptCatID  
> = var3 AND CA.RegNo = var4  
>  
> var1 = request.form("Month")  
> var2= request.form("Year")  
> var3 = request.form("Category")  
> var4 = request.form("Resident")  
>  
> How can I make this so that if the user wants to search for records  
> pertaining to just the Resident, or if the user wants to search for records  
> in a specific month. I thought about using something like this,  
>  
> If request.form("Month") <> "" Then  
> sql = blah,blah  
> Else  
> sql = blah,blah  
>  
> But there are too many combinations, I just think there should be an easier  
> way to do this, but the OR in the SQL Statement doesn't work either, then it  
> returns too many records.  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Drew  
>  
>  
>
```