

## Re: Basic Question Re Quantities

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/SQL-Server/microsoft.public.sqlserver.programming/2004-09/6562.html>

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**Date:** 09/29/04

Date: Wed, 29 Sep 2004 09:48:45 -0500

"Mike Epprecht (SQL MVP)" <mike@epprecht.net> wrote in message  
news:33790731-1020-456F-A23A-39C5289FCAB5@microsoft.com...

> *Hi*

>

> *It would be best to do this in a stored procedure. You call the SP once*

> *and*

> *it is one transaction, so you don't need to worry about locking rows, SQL*

> *will do it for you.*

>

Not true. Sql Server stored procedures are not atomic, and don't have any special locking or transaction behavior. You still must explicitly begin transactions and you must ensure that you acquire an exclusive or update lock on the row when you first select the data.

If you just do this

```
create procedure foo as
```

```
declare @qty int
```

```
select @qty = quantity from t
```

```
if @qty > 0
```

```
begin
```

```
    update t set quantity = @qty -1
```

```
end
```

Then two session can each execute the select, then each execute the update.

But the second session will have a lost update.

David