

How to restore data from a backup into an existing SQL Server database

There may be a need to restore backed up data into an existing database. A situation may be where a system has been recovered from a hardware crash and backed up data needs to be restored.

1. Open SQL Server Management Studio
2. Right click Databases and select Attach option
3. Click the Add button and select the DB file to be restored (ie the database that has been backed up), then click OK after browsing and finding the backup
4. The backed up filename will need to be changed if the DB file to be restored already exists. Click on the filename under the Attach as column and call the file something else eg CalltrakOrig then click on the OK button. This will restore the backed up database as CalltrakOrig and allow for operations to be performed
5. Now, the data can be manipulated and processed etc.

If we want to insert **all** the SMDR data from the backed up DB into the existing SMDR table, we could execute the following SQL command

```
Insert into Calltrak.dbo.[SMDR]
Select * from CalltrakOrig.dbo.SMDR
```

If we wanted only a subset of data based on dates, we could use the following command

```
Insert into Calltrak.dbo.[SMDR]
Select * from CalltrakOrig.dbo.SMDR
where [Date] >= '2010-10-20 09:00:00' and [Date] <= '2010-11-01 00:00:00'
```

And so on.

For more information on SQL queries, refer to appropriate queries available on internet sites.