

Using SQL Monitor 2.3 in the Real World

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Today's Topics

- What is Monitoring?
- Why Monitor?
- How to Monitor?
- What is SQL Monitor 2.3?
- What Data Does SQL Monitor 2.3 Collect?
- SQL Monitor 2.3 Architecture
- Using SQL Monitor 2.3 to Monitor SQLServerCentral.com & Simple-Talk.com (Demo)

What is Monitoring?

- Essentially, monitoring is checking up on your servers on a periodic basis to ensure they are working and performing as expected.
- Some things need to be monitored continuously, some hourly, some daily, some weekly, some monthly, etc.
- Unfortunately, SQL Server can't monitor itself. As the DBA, this is your job.

Why Monitor?

- To be proactive so that you can:
 - Identify and fix small problems before they become big problems.
 - Identify problems as soon as they occur in order to keep your users online and productive.
 - Ideally, you will identify and fix problems before your users even know the problems exist.
- Being a proactive DBA is much less stressful than being a reactive DBA.

How to Monitor?

- Monitor manually using tools that come with SQL Server:
 - SSMS, including alerts
 - Review log files
 - Performance Monitor
 - Profiler
- Create your own monitoring system using T-SQL scripts or PowerShell, and maybe Reporting Services.
- Use a third-party tool, such as SQL Monitor.

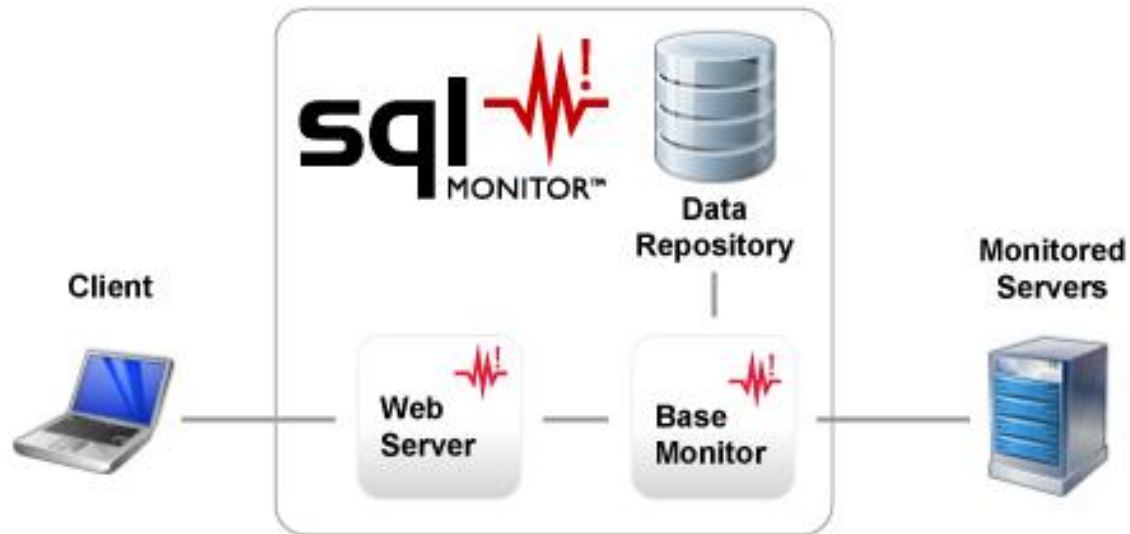
What is SQL Monitor 2.3?

- SQL Monitor is both a performance monitoring and an alerting tool.
- It identifies common performance problems and other key issues of interest to the DBA, only collecting enough diagnostic data to help you identify why it occurred.
- It is not designed to identify and diagnose every possible SQL Server-related problem, or to recommend ways to boost the performance of your servers.

What Data Does SQL Monitor 2.3 Collect?

- Common Server, Instance, and Database Properties
- Common Alerts
- Common Performance Monitor Counters
- Top 10 Most Expensive Queries
- Top 10 Most Expensive System Processes
- Profiler Data (optional)
- Near Real-Time and Historical Data for All of the Above

SQL Monitor 2.3 Architecture



Using SQL Monitor 2.3 to Monitor SQLServerCentral.com & Simple-Talk.com

- Let's look at how SQL Monitor 2.3 is used to monitor alerts and performance for the SQLServerCentral.com and Simple-Talk.com websites.
- Demo

More Information on SQL Monitor

- Brad's Sure Guide to SQL Monitor 2.3
- SQLServerCentral.com Best Practices Clinic:
 - Part 1
 - Part 2
 - Part 3
 - Part 4
 - Part 5
- The Future of Monitoring Website

E-books, websites, slides & more

- Free E-books on SQL Server:

- www.sqlservercentral.com/Books

- Check these websites out:

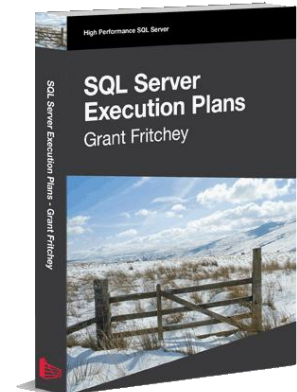
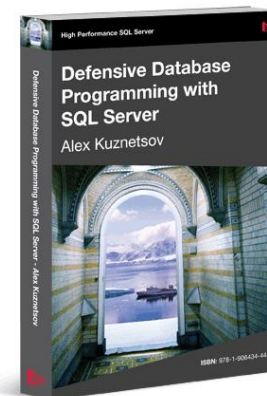
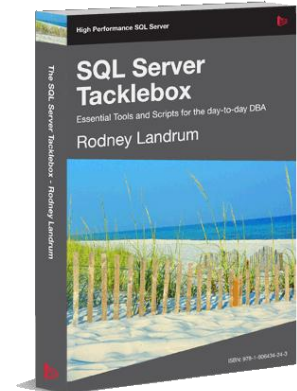
- www.SQLServerCentral.com
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- Blogs:

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