

Existence checks

- Make use of the existence checking defined [here](#)
- Always check for existence when adding new objects to the database (see example below)

```
IF NOT EXISTS
(
    SELECT TOP 1
        1
    FROM
        sys.all_columns c
        JOIN sys.tables t
            ON t.object_id = c.object_id
    WHERE t.name = 'EmployeeLeave'
        AND c.name = 'ActionStatus')
BEGIN
    ALTER TABLE EmployeeLeave
    ADD
        ActionStatus INT
END
```

- Also check for existence when editing a database object (see example below)

```
IF EXISTS
(
    SELECT TOP 1
        1
    FROM
        sys.all_columns c
        JOIN sys.tables t
            ON t.object_id = c.object_id
    WHERE t.name = 'EmployeeLeave'
        AND c.name = 'ActionStatus')
BEGIN
    ALTER TABLE EmployeeLeave
    ALTER COLUMN ActionStatus NVARCHAR(2) NOT NULL
END
```

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