



MAIN FEATURE TAB

The *Searcher*

Search and browse the connected database — find tables, views, stored procedures, functions, and columns by name or content, then drill into their details.

Who

WHO IT IS FOR

Database developers, analysts, and report writers who need answers from a SQL Server or Azure SQL database but would rather not hand-write every SELECT.

What

WHAT IT DOES

The Searcher is a visual query builder. Choose a root table or view, then use its sub-tabs (Select, Where, Group By, Having, Order By, SQL, Tree) to assemble a query by pointing and clicking. McSaver Search writes the SQL for you and runs it on demand.

When

WHEN TO USE IT

Use it whenever you need to pull, filter, or summarise data and want the query built — and validated against the live schema — as you go, instead of typing and debugging SQL by hand.

Where

WHERE TO FIND IT

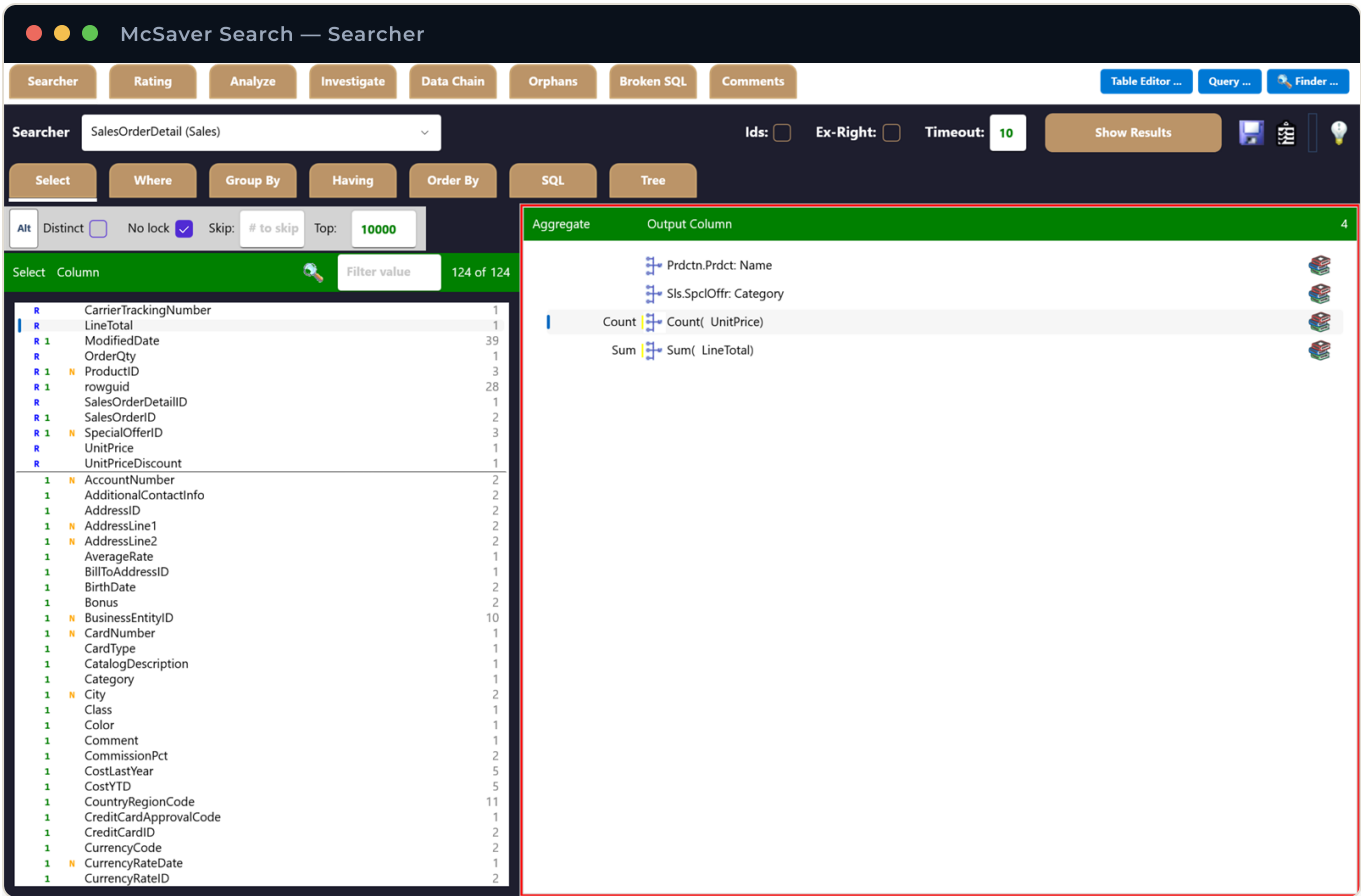
It is the first tab along the top of the main window once you connect to a database. Its sub-tabs run across the second bar, and the Table Editor, Query, and Finder tools sit in the header to the right.

Why

WHY IT MATTERS

It turns the whole database into something you can click. Joins, GROUP BY, window functions, and aliases are handled for you, so you spend your time on the question rather than the syntax.

SCREENSHOT



Searcher as shown on mcsavertechnologies.com



Tip of the Day 64 tips

Every Tip of the Day for this tab — open them in the app from the lightbulb icon.

- VALUE** Build complex SQL queries visually without writing a single line of code — pick tables, columns, filters, grouping, and sorting through the tabs and let the Searcher generate the SQL for you.
- OVERVIEW** The Searcher is a visual SQL query builder where you choose a root table and assemble a SELECT statement using the Select, Where, Group By, Having, Order By, SQL, and Tree tabs.
- NAVIGATION** Use the root-entity Picker beside the "Searcher" title to choose the table your query is built from; its tooltip shows the table's description.
- FEATURE** Check "Ids" in the header to drop primary-key Id columns from every table except the root, keeping your column list focused.
- FEATURE** Check "Ex-Right" in the header to eliminate every column that sits to the right of the root entity in the join tree.
- PERFORMANCE** Set the "Timeout" value in the header to cap how many seconds an SQL operation may run before it is cancelled.

ACTION	Click "Show Results" in the header to run the query and open the results in a separate Search Results window.
WORKFLOW	Click the save (disk) icon in the header to open the Save SQL dialog and persist your query.
WORKFLOW	Click the list icon in the header to load a previously saved Searcher criteria back into the builder.
VISUAL	Click the camera icon in the header to save images of the current view when image capture is available.
NAVIGATION	Click the tip (lightbulb) icon in the header to reopen this Tip of the Day window.
NAVIGATION	On the Tree tab, type in the "Highlite Items" entry to highlight matching entities in yellow across the join tree.
VISUAL	Check "Show Short Aliases" on the Tree tab to switch entity names between their full aliases and abbreviated short aliases.
VISUAL	On the Tree tab, green depth bars mark the Left Side of the tree and blue depth bars mark the Right Side, with a Level pill showing each join's depth.
NAVIGATION	Click any entity row in the Tree tab to re-root your query on that table without leaving the Tree tab.
ACTION	Right-click an entity in the Tree tab to set a custom alias for that table.
VISUAL	Each Tree row shows a join-type pill whose letter (and tooltip) tells you the kind of join used to reach that entity.
NAVIGATION	Use the "Last Viewed" bar at the bottom of the Tree tab to jump back to any of your recently viewed root entities.
ACTION	Click the All/Alt/Group pill on the Select tab to cycle the left list between every column, unique column names, and a grouped view.
ACTION	On the Select tab, check "Distinct" to return only unique rows in your results.
PERFORMANCE	Check "No lock" on the Select tab to add a NOLOCK hint that reads without taking locks on a busy database.
ACTION	Use "Skip" and "Top" on the Select tab to page through or cap result size — great for previewing large tables quickly.
FILTER	Type in the "Filter value" entry on the Select tab to narrow the list of selectable columns by name.
ACTION	Tap a column in the left list of the Select tab to add it to your query; double-tap a selected column on the right to remove it.
ACTION	Right-click the "X of" count on the Select tab to add all filtered columns, or right-click the total count to add every column at once.
SELECTION	Right-click the selected-columns count on the Select tab to remove all selected columns in one step.

VISUAL	Red row-count bars warn that a table has over a million rows and yellow bars warn of over a hundred thousand rows — add WHERE filters before querying those.
COLUMN	In the column lists, a blue "R" means the column exists in the root table, a green "1" marks a one-to-one relationship, a red "M" marks one-to-many, and an orange flag marks a natural key.
ACTION	Click the rotated aggregation icon next to a selected column to change its aggregation (Sum, Count, Avg, Min, Max, and more).
ACTION	Right-click a selected column on the Select tab to rename its output alias in the results.
ACTION	Drag and drop selected columns on the Select tab to reorder them in the query output.
FILTER	Check "Exclude Nulls" on a selected column to filter out null values from nullable or left-joined columns.
FEATURE	Click the dictionary icon on a selected column to open the advanced popup for Ranking, Window, Percentile, Offset, and Expression support.
VISUAL	On a selected column, a blue bar marks a required left join, a red bar marks a one-to-many path, and a green bar marks a nullable column.
ACTION	On the Where tab, click the add (+) icon to append a new filter condition to your query.
ACTION	Use the And/Or connector Picker on each Where row to control how that condition joins the previous one.
ACTION	Drag the colored group bars on the left of a Where row to wrap conditions in parentheses or ungroup them.
VISUAL	Aqua group bars on the Where tab mean your parenthetical grouping is valid; red bars mean a group still needs fixing.
ACTION	Double-tap the funnel icon on a Where row to delete that condition.
ACTION	Click the tag / data-connection icon on a Where row to switch between comparing against a typed value and comparing against another column.
FEATURE	The Where value editor adapts to the column type, offering text, numeric, date, time, or a dropdown of known reference values.
FILTER	On a nullable or left-joined Where column, toggle the include-nulls radio button to include null rows; right-click it to turn that off.
CLARIFICATION	The Having tab works just like the Where tab but filters after aggregation — it appears only when your query uses GROUP BY.
CLARIFICATION	The Group By and Having tabs appear automatically once an aggregation forces a GROUP BY, and hide again when none is needed.
ACTION	On the Order By tab, click the arrow icon next to a sort column to toggle between Ascending and Descending.
ACTION	Check "Best Guess" on the Order By tab to auto-suggest a reasonable sort order for your query.

FILTER	Check "Limit to used columns" on the Order By or Group By tab to show only columns already used in your query.
ACTION	Drag and drop Order By columns to set sort priority — the topmost column sorts first; double-tap a column to remove it.
ACTION	Click "Clear all" on the Order By or Group By tab to remove every selected sort or grouping column at once.
ACTION	On the Group By tab, check "Best Guess" to auto-suggest grouping columns based on your selected columns.
NAVIGATION	The SQL tab shows a read-only, syntax-highlighted preview of the generated query with line numbers.
CLIPBOARD	When the query can't build, click the red error banner at the bottom of the SQL tab to copy the message to your clipboard.
FEATURE	In the advanced popup, the Ranking tab builds ROW_NUMBER, RANK, and DENSE_RANK functions with optional PARTITION BY and ORDER BY columns.
FEATURE	The Window Aggr. tab computes an aggregate OVER a window, with optional ORDER BY and a Frame clause using ROWS BETWEEN preceding and following bounds.
FEATURE	The Percentile tab calculates distribution percentiles from 0.0 to 1.0 within an ordered group, with optional PARTITION BY columns.
FEATURE	The Offset tab builds LAG and LEAD functions, letting you set the offset, a default value, and null handling to compare a row to its neighbors.
FEATURE	The Expression tab lets you write a free-form expression and map @0, @1, @2 placeholders to columns you pick below.
ACTION	Check "Simple Expression" in the Expression tab for guided DateTime, String, or Math function pickers chosen by the column's data type.
VISUAL	In the advanced popup, give your new column a name in the "AS" entry, then click Ok to add it or Cancel to discard it.
WORKFLOW	In the Save SQL dialog, choose a Format of Criteria, SQL, View, Proc, or Func to control what gets generated.
WORKFLOW	Save as Criteria to preserve the full visual query structure so you can reload and edit it later.
EXPORT	In the Save SQL dialog, pick a Destination of File, Database, or Clipboard for the generated SQL.
TECHNIQUE	Check "Generate Test Script" when saving to also place a runnable test version of your query on the clipboard.
ACTION	When saving to a file, check "Open Directory" to reveal the saved file's folder once the save completes.