

# Extracting Date from SQL Server datetime

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I was working on a project yesterday that required me to get a date from a SQL Server datetime field. I needed it to return just the date (not the time), but for the life of me I couldn't figure it out (don't worry about why, just go with me here).

I called my good friend (and local SQL Server answer-man), [Will Spurgeon](#). As usual, he came through for me. I never would have guessed the answer:

```
cast(convert(varchar(100), mydatecol, 101) as datetime) AS mydatecol
```

In the context of a more complete SQL statement:

```
SELECT cast(convert(varchar(100), mydatecol, 101) as datetime) AS mydatecol  
FROM mytable  
WHERE id=1
```

Apparently, telling SQL Server to convert the datetime to a varchar and then back to a datetime does the trick. Imagine that!

## Update!

Someone always has a better way. The [databasejournal.com](#) web site has an article titled "[Examples of how to Calculate Different SQL Server Dates](#)" that covers another technique for this as well as all sorts of ways to calculate dates.

Here is the solution from the article:

```
SELECT DATEADD(dd, DATEDIFF(dd,0,getdate()), 0)
```

Don't let that keep you from reading the article though. It has plenty of other good date techniques.