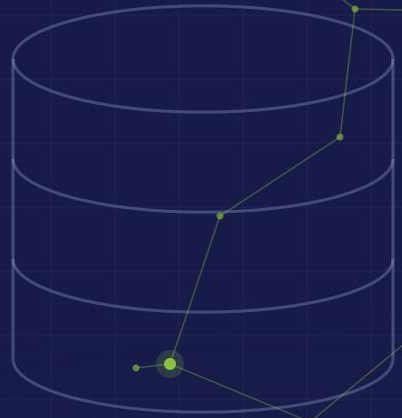
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SQL Server Services

DAY OF DATA VANCOUVER

If I Had 30 Minutes to Audit Your SQL Server

The checklist from hundreds of health checks that finds the biggest risks fast

George Stedman & Steve Stedman



Starting shortly

Performance · Health Checks · Managed Services

stedmansolutions.com

Welcome

A handful of metrics consistently reveal the biggest risks on any SQL Server



What we've seen

Hundreds of health checks across organizations of every size



What we'll cover

Backups, CHECKDB, waits, indexes, Query Store, blocking, TempDB, config



What you'll take away

A practical audit process you can apply to your servers right away

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About George



George Stedman

Developer & DBA, Stedman Solutions

- Focused on SQL Server performance, tuning & automation
- Works across on-prem, AWS RDS and Azure
- One of the developers behind Database Health Monitor
- Tunes workloads and cuts cloud spend
- Off the clock: home labs and automation projects

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About Steve

Steve Stedman

Founder & Owner, Stedman Solutions

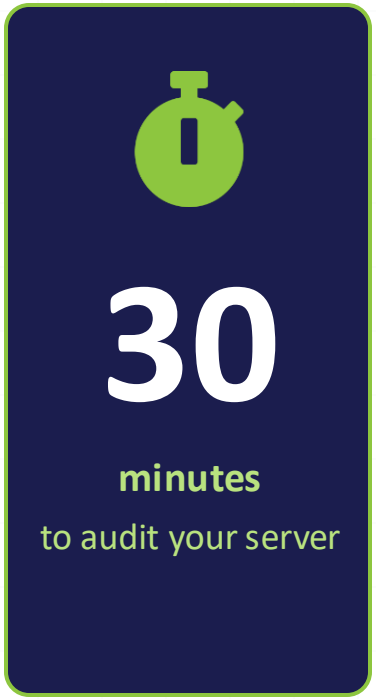
- 36 years working with SQL Server
- Specialties: performance, health checks, replication
- Database corruption repair
- Founded Stedman Solutions 11 years ago to do exactly this work



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Agenda

1. Do this first: game-over risks
2. Where to look: monitoring & help
3. “SQL Server is slow”
4. “Something is blocking everything”
5. “We're running out of resources”
6. Live demo
7. Summary, next steps & Q&A



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Do This First: Game Over

What can take down your system, and end your job: the RGE (résumé-generating event)



18 months

of database corruption before anyone ran CHECKDB

- **Backups you've never test-restored**
- **Integrity checks that never run**
- **Don't hold a live grenade: fix these before tuning anything**
- **Horror stories from real health checks**

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Where to Look

You can't fix what you can't see



Historic monitoring

See what happened, not just what's happening now

- Database Health Monitor
- Query Store



Need help right now?

When the server is on fire and you need answers today

- Stedman Solutions can help
- Health checks & managed services

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Chief Complaints

Why are we here? The three calls we get most often



“SQL Server is slow”



“Something is blocking everything”



“We're running out of resources”

Disk, memory, CPU… and we can't just throw more hardware at it

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“SQL Server Is Slow”

Six T-SQL checks that separate symptoms from root causes

Waits

Where is the server spending its time?

What is active

What's running right now

Which database

Where the load is coming from

CPU by query

The queries burning processor

Long-running queries

What takes the longest

Missing indexes

Cheap wins, applied carefully

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When Everything Is Blocked

"Something is blocking everything": follow the chain back to the head blocker



01 **Blocking tree**

02 **Open transactions**

03 **Sessions**

04 **Blocking by hour**

05 **Deadlock history**

All five checks run as T-SQL, with no extra tools needed

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Running Out of Resources

Disk, memory, CPU, and why more hardware isn't the answer



Storage

Space, growth, I/O latency, TempDB



Processor

CPU pressure and the queries behind it



Contention

Memory, locks and shared resources under load

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Live Demo

Seeing the checklist in action on a real server

Database Health Monitor

Performance Monitor

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Summary

What we covered

- “SQL Server is slow”
- “Something is blocking everything”
- “We're running out of resources”
- “It used to work fine, but now it doesn't”



Next steps: free downloads

- Demo database
- Finder script
- Database Health Monitor

DatabaseHealth.com

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SQL Server Services

Thanks for Watching!

Need help with your SQL Server? Contact us

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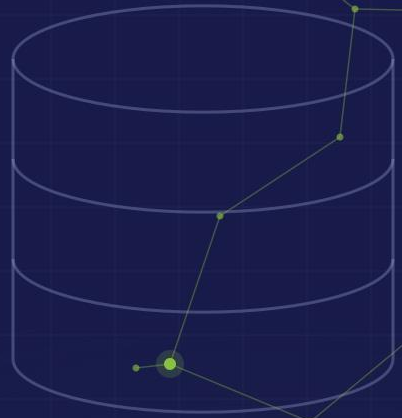
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Questions?

Ask away. We're happy to dig into your SQL Server challenges

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