

SQL Hook Usage Setup

NOTE: SQL Hook should be installed in its entirety before attempting to follow this document. Please refer to the SQL Hook Installation Instructions for the install guide.

Open the SQL Hook Client application

Adding/Modifying a Monitored SQL Instance

Double click Server\Instance Entry

Select <Add New Database> from the list on the left hand side. Now fill in the entry form.

- Alias – Alias is a readable name for the SQL Instance. It should be unique.
- Server\Instance – This is the SQL Instance Server\Instance – if the default instance, then it can be just the server name
- Port – Port should only be used if non-standard and the SQL Browser is not running
- Trusted Connection – This is the manner in which to connect to the SQL Instance, either via a Trusted windows connection or via a SQL user account.
- SQL Username – This is the SQL User account to connect to the SQL Instance if Trusted Connection is not selected.
- SQL Password – This is the SQL User password to connect to the SQL Instance if Trusted Connection is not selected.
- Comments – These comments can be used to save some information about the SQL Instance
- Active – The active flag indicates whether the SQL Instance is available to both the SQL Hook Monitor and the SQL Hook Client
- Alert Email – This is the email address used to send Alerts to

When you have completed the entry form, click Save. When you click Save a basic connectivity test will take place, if the SQL Instance is available, the entry will be saved – This may take a moment as it is populating all the required back end information for the SQL Instance.

In cases where the current user does not have access to WMI queries on the target server, you can specify a WMI Proxy user for the SQL Instance by clicking the WMI Proxy button.

You can now click Close.

You can go in and change these settings at any time, with the exception of the Server\Instance which is locked once you save. To modify the Server\Instance you will need to delete the entry and create a new one.

To modify an entry, you would open the Server\Instance Entry page and select the Alias or Server\Instance from the list on the left (Alias or Server\Instance depends on a setting in Options page).

The entry form will fill in with the settings from the entry, you can then make modifications and click Save.

To delete an entry, select it from the list on the left and click Delete.

To clear history for an entry, select an entry from the list on the left and click Clear History

NOTE: You can only add as many instances as your license will allow.

Editing Threshold Monitoring

Threshold Monitoring is the process SQL Hook takes to alert you when a performance counter value exceeds a set limit. To make sure that a user doesn't get alerted every time a performance counter spikes, the alerts are triggered from an average value over a period of time. As every system is different, by default, no thresholds are configured.

NOTE: Before you set thresholds on your counters, you should establish a baseline, to do this, set up the SQL Instance to monitor and allow SQL Hook to capture the values over a period of time during average load. Once you have the baselines (nominal) values, you should set the thresholds up to be above the baseline.

To edit your thresholds, open Alert Setup and double click Edit Threshold Monitoring. From the dropdown in the upper right, select your SQL Instance.

Threshold Monitoring Setup: sqlhook_dev1									sqlhook_dev1
Alias	CounterID	Object Name	Counter Na...	Instance	MonitoredVal	Operator	Threshold	Email Flag Val	Monitored
sqlhook_dev1	131	LogicalDisk	% Disk Read...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	129	LogicalDisk	% Disk Time	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	133	LogicalDisk	% Disk Writ...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	126	LogicalDisk	% Free Space	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	147	LogicalDisk	% Idle Time	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	145	LogicalDisk	Avg. Disk By...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	144	LogicalDisk	Avg. Disk By...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	146	LogicalDisk	Avg. Disk By...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	130	LogicalDisk	Avg. Disk Q...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	132	LogicalDisk	Avg. Disk Re...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	136	LogicalDisk	Avg. Disk se...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	135	LogicalDisk	Avg. Disk se...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	137	LogicalDisk	Avg. Disk se...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	134	LogicalDisk	Avg. Disk W...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	128	LogicalDisk	Current Disk...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	141	LogicalDisk	Disk Bytes/s...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	142	LogicalDisk	Disk Read B...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>
sqlhook_dev1	139	LogicalDisk	Disk Reads/...	_Total	N				<input type="checkbox"/>

Your available performance counters to set up Threshold Monitoring on are sorted by Object Name, you can change the sorting by clicking on the header. To Monitor a particular performance counter, tick the Monitor box.

You will then be presented with the Setup Monitor Items window. From here you can set up your monitoring criteria:

- Operator – Here you should select the type of operator your monitoring will use (=, <>, <, >, >=, =<)

- Threshold – This is the numeric limit you have assigned to the performance counter
- Email Flag – If ticked, an alert will be sent by email if the counter is threshold is exceeded as well as an entry on the Alerts page, if not ticked, then no email will be sent, but an entry will still be made on the Alerts page.

When you are finished, click Save – You should then repeat for all the counters you wish to monitor.

Editing Non-Metric Monitoring

Non-Metric Monitoring is the monitoring SQL Hook performs which is not directly related to the performance counters, and instead focuses on other types of alerts, such as no backups being performed lately, xp_cmdshell being active etc. By default, all non-metric alerts are active from setup.

Open Alert Setup and double click Edit Non-Metric Monitoring. From the dropdown in the upper right, select your SQL Instance.

⚠ Non-Metric Monitoring Setup: sqlhook_dev1		sqlhook_dev1
Alert Description	Monitored	
Autogrowth off and file near full	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Instance is offline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
License will soon expire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Low disk space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
No backups ran recently	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
OLE Automation Procedures are active	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
xp_cmdshell is Active	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

To change whether you monitor a non-metric alert or not, either tick or untick the entry as needed.

Repeat the steps above for all monitored SQL Instances.