Create a Server Role

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THIS TOPIC APPLIES TO: SQL Server Azure SQL Database Azure SQL Data Warehouse Parallel Data Warehouse

This topic describes how to create a new server role in SQL Server 2017 by using SQL Server Management Studio or Transact-SQL.

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Before You Begin

Limitations and Restrictions

Server roles cannot be granted permission on database-level securables. To create database roles, see CREATE ROLE (Transact-SQL).

FEEDBACK

Security

Permissions

- Requires CREATE SERVER ROLE permission or membership in the sysadmin fixed server role.
- Also requires IMPERSONATE on the *server_principal* for logins, ALTER permission for server roles used as the *server_principal*, or membership in a Windows group that is used as the server_principal.
- When you use the AUTHORIZATION option to assign server role ownership, the following permissions are also required:
  - To assign ownership of a server role to another login, requires IMPERSONATE permission on that login.
  - To assign ownership of a server role to another server role, requires membership in the recipient server role or ALTER permission on that server role.

Using SQL Server Management Studio

To create a new server role

1. In Object Explorer, expand the server where you want to create the new server role.
2. Expand the **Security** folder.
3. Right-click the **Server Roles** folder and select **New Server Role...**.
4. In the **New Server Role –***server_role_name* dialog box, on the **General** page, enter a name for the new server role in the **Server role name** box.
5. In the **Owner** box, enter the name of the server principal that will own the new role. Alternately, click the ellipsis **(...)** to open the **Select Server Login or Role** dialog box.
6. Under **Securables**, select one or more server-level securables. When a securable is selected, this server role can be granted or denied permissions on that securable.
7. In the **Permissions: Explicit** box, select the check box to grant, grant with grant, or deny permission to this server role for the selected securables. If a permission cannot be granted or denied to all of the selected securables, the permission is represented as a partial select.
8. On the **Members** page, use the **Add** button to add logins that represent individuals or groups to the new server role.

9. A user-defined server role can be a member of another server role. On the **Memberships** page, select a check box to make the current user-defined server role a member of a selected server role.

10. Click **OK**.

Using Transact-SQL

To create a new server role

1. In **Object Explorer**, connect to an instance of Database Engine.

2. On the Standard bar, click **New Query**.

3. Copy and paste the following example into the query window and click **Execute**.

   Copy

   ```
   --Creates the server role auditors that is owned the securityadmin fixed server ro
   USE master;
   CREATE SERVER ROLE auditors AUTHORIZATION securityadmin;
   GO
   ```

   For more information, see CREATE SERVER ROLE (Transact-SQL).

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