

SQL functions, the ones you actually use.

D8A.ACADEMY/RESOURCES/SQL-FUNCTIONS

AGGREGATES

COUNT(*)	rows, nulls included
COUNT(DISTINCT x)	uniques
SUM(x) · AVG(x)	skip nulls
MIN(x) · MAX(x)	also on dates

DATES

DATE_TRUNC('month', d)	first day
EXTRACT(year FROM d)	pull a part
d + INTERVAL '7 day'	date math
CURRENT_DATE	today

WINDOW

ROW_NUMBER() OVER(...)	dedupe
RANK() · DENSE_RANK()	ties differ
LAG(x) · LEAD(x)	prev / next row
SUM() OVER(ORDER BY d)	running total

STRINGS

LOWER(x) · TRIM(x)	clean first
CONCAT(a,b) / a b	glue
SUBSTRING(x,1,3)	slice
REPLACE(x, 'a', 'b')	swap
SPLIT_PART(x, ',', 1)	split

NULLS

COALESCE(x, 0)	first non-null
NULLIF(x, 0)	≠0 armor
x IS NULL	← never "= NULL". never.

CONDITIONAL

CASE WHEN ... END	if / else
FILTER (WHERE ...)	if-count
GREATEST(a,b)	row-wise max

WORTH MEMORIZING

01 The dedupe pattern

Strings + window functions together: the five lines that clean most real tables.

```
SELECT * FROM (
  SELECT *, ROW_NUMBER() OVER (
    PARTITION BY LOWER(TRIM(email))
    ORDER BY created_at DESC) AS rn
  FROM customers
) t WHERE rn = 1;
```

→ Normalize inside the PARTITION BY, keep the newest row per person, drop the rest.

02 Trap: NULL breaks your math

Three lines that look right and return wrong numbers.

YOU WROTE	WHAT HAPPENS	WRITE INSTEAD
WHERE x = NULL	always empty	WHERE x IS NULL
AVG(score)	ignores nulls silently	AVG(COALESCE(score,0)) if 0 is real
a / b	errors when b = 0	a / NULLIF(b,0)

→ NULL is not a value, it is "unknown". Every comparison with it returns unknown, not false.