

SQL Server Advantages

There are many good reasons to move from an Access database to a SQL Server database, listed below.

- Microsoft currently offers SQL Express for no charge! The reason our software didn't use SQL from the beginning is that it was cost-prohibitive at that time. Free is a big improvement!
- When an Access database is shut down or disconnected incorrectly as can happen with a power surge, power outage or network hardware failure, the data can become corrupted. On occasion this corruption is not fixable. SQL databases can become corrupt, but it happens much, much less frequently and usually they are not affected by an abrupt shutdown.
- As your business grows, SQL databases can handle many more records allowing you to store more years of history than Access. Access can start showing corruption in very large databases.
- We are developing our new program (code name TNG) to use a SQL database because it's just more modern and safer for your data. If you convert now, you will be ready when the new program is completed.

So to recap, SQL is bigger, stronger, more powerful, and best of all, free from Microsoft! During 2009 we are offering SQL conversions for half price to celebrate our 20th anniversary as a company. The price to convert your data is only \$100.

The drawback to SQL is that random corruption that might already exist in your database might cause errors to crop up when you first begin using it. These are usually easily corrected and stop happening after the first week. We recommend that you schedule the conversion at a time when the inconvenience of this is minimized. For example, don't do it in a week you're having a tax audit.

Finally, SQL Server Express does have certain computer requirements as all software does. And we do require that you be on version 8.4.3 or later of our software to convert. It's much easier for us to deal with any issues that might come up if you're using a newer version of Advantage.