

How do you get the ID of the inserted row with Java and SQL Server?

Posted At : January 4, 2018 10:00 AM | Posted By : Jeffrey Houser
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I've been playing around with the [Learn With series](#) and building the backend services in Java. I was going right along until I got to the chapter to create and update data. The query is something like this:

```
String SQL = "insert into tasks(taskCategoryID, userID, description, completed, dateCreated) values(?,?, ?, 0, ? )  
SELECT SCOPE_IDENTITY() as taskID";
```

This is a super common approach to creating a new item in SQL Server, and then immediately selecting the newly created ID with SCOPE_IDENTITY(). I'd expect it to work easily.

The rest of the code:

```
PreparedStatement pstmt = connection.prepareStatement(SQL);  
  
// set parameters  
pstmt.setInt(1, taskCategoryID);  
pstmt.setInt(2, userID);  
pstmt.setString(3, description);  
LocalDate dateCreated = LocalDate.now();  
pstmt.setObject(4, dateCreated);  
ResultSet rs = pstmt.executeQuery();
```

The last line will throw an error claiming that the query returned no results sets and blow up. I had been swimming along smoothly until I ran into that issue. It turns out that, for updates and inserts, that is the wrong approach. Instead of using executeQuery(), I need to use executeUpdate(), like this:

```
pstmt.executeUpdate();
```

After that, I can get the second result set using this:

```
ResultSet rs = pstmt.getGeneratedKeys();
```

Then things are good to go.

You'll probably find the LearnWith series supporting Java next month.