

# Provide custom SQL script

The Provide Custom SQL Script window of the Add Custom Counter wizard allows you to enter or paste a T-SQL script for your custom counter. For more information about T-SQL scripts, see [SQL Server Books Online](#).

Refer to the following tips when using custom SQL Scripts:

- Dangerous or destructive T-SQL that is entered as a custom counter is executed as entered, which could result in a negative impact on the linked monitored SQL Server instances.
- The `go` command is not a Transact-SQL statement and you cannot use this command in custom SQL batches. The `go` command is a batch separator for Management Studio, Query Analyzer, `sqlcmd`, and `osql`.
- Custom counter scripts run at every scheduled refresh and on-demand on the Custom Counters view. For best performance, custom scripts should run in under 30 seconds. If the script takes longer than two minutes to execute, timeouts may occur.
- Custom SQL scripts must return a single result set with a single numeric field. Additional fields or non-numeric values result in an error.
- Custom SQL scripts are displayed in Queries tab with "User Defined Counter" in their application name.
- The following options are set by default for custom counter scripts. If you need to use a different value, particularly another transaction isolation level, you should add the appropriate SET statement to the beginning of the script.
  - `set transaction isolation level read uncommitted`
  - `set lock_timeout 20000`
  - `set implicit_transactions off`
  - `set language us_english`
  - `set cursor_close_on_commit off`
  - `set query_governor_cost_limit 0`
  - `set numeric_roundabort off`

## Access the Add Custom Counter wizard

You can open the Add Custom Counter wizard by clicking **Administration > Custom Counters**, and then clicking **Add** in the Custom Counters view.

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