

Introduction

Microsoft SQL Server Server Management is an advanced development environment that enables us to configure, manage and administrate SQL Server database engines. SSMS is very popular and widely used by the database developers and administrators because of the following advantages:

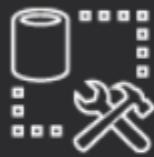
- Cost-free
- Advanced user experience
- Various add-in options
- Easy installation

Firstly, we will learn the installation and then go through the other details of the SSMS.

Installation

We can download the latest version of the SSMS from the [Microsoft download](#) website and we can also find out the release notes.

After downloading the setup file, we will open the setup file and click the install button in order to begin the installation. On this screen, the **Location** setting specifies the installation path of the Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio:



RELEASE 18.4

Microsoft SQL Server Management

Welcome. Click "Install" to begin.

Location:

C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio 18

By clicking the "Install" button, I acknowledge that I accept the [License Terms](#) and [Privacy Statement](#).

SQL Server Management Studio transmits information about your installation experience, usage and performance data, to Microsoft to help improve the product. To learn more about this information, see [documentation](#).

Install

Close

In the second screen, the installation process will be started and the progression of the setup will be shown:



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Package Progress



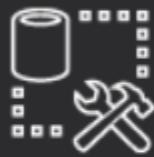
Microsoft Help Viewer 2.3

Overall Progress



Cancel

After the installation is completed, the following screen will appear and inform us that the installation has been completed successfully:



RELEASE 18.4

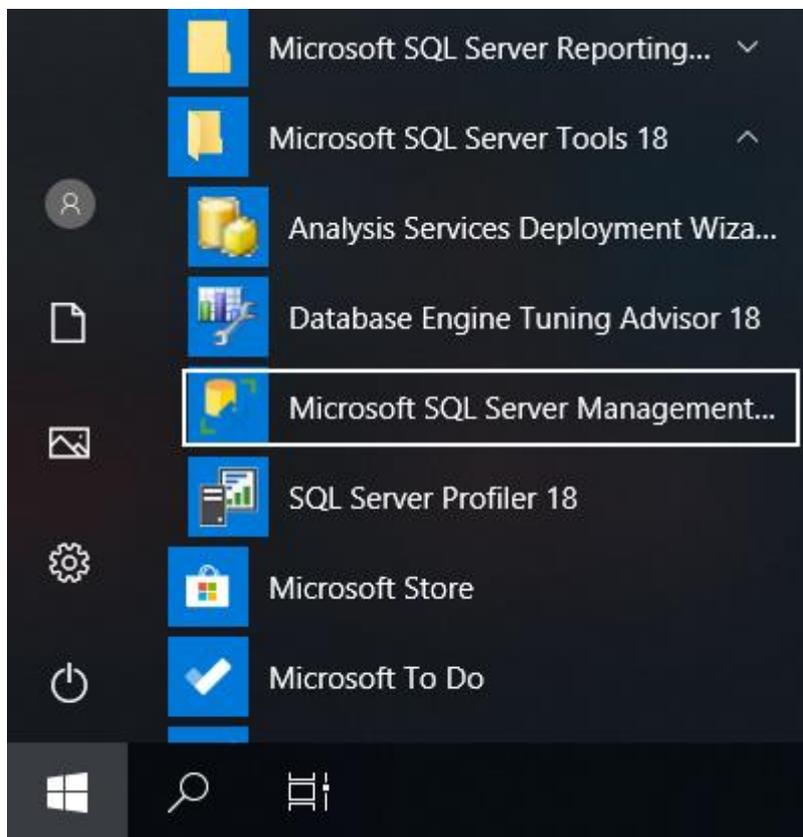
Microsoft SQL Server Management

Setup Completed

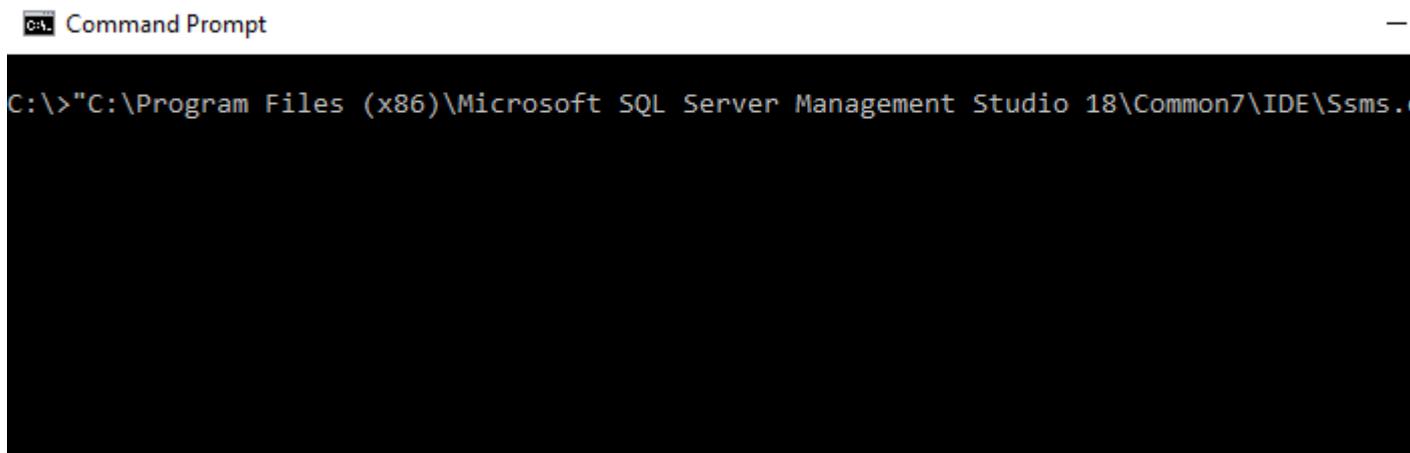
All specified components have been installed successfully.

Close

Now, we can launch SSMS from the **Start** menu:

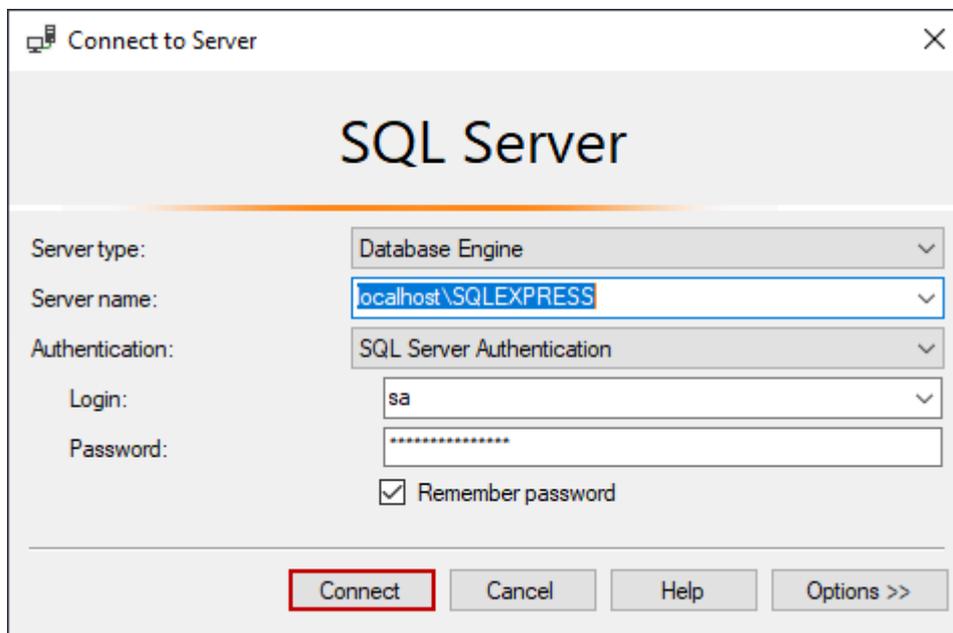


Also, we can use the **Command Prompt** to launch SSMS:



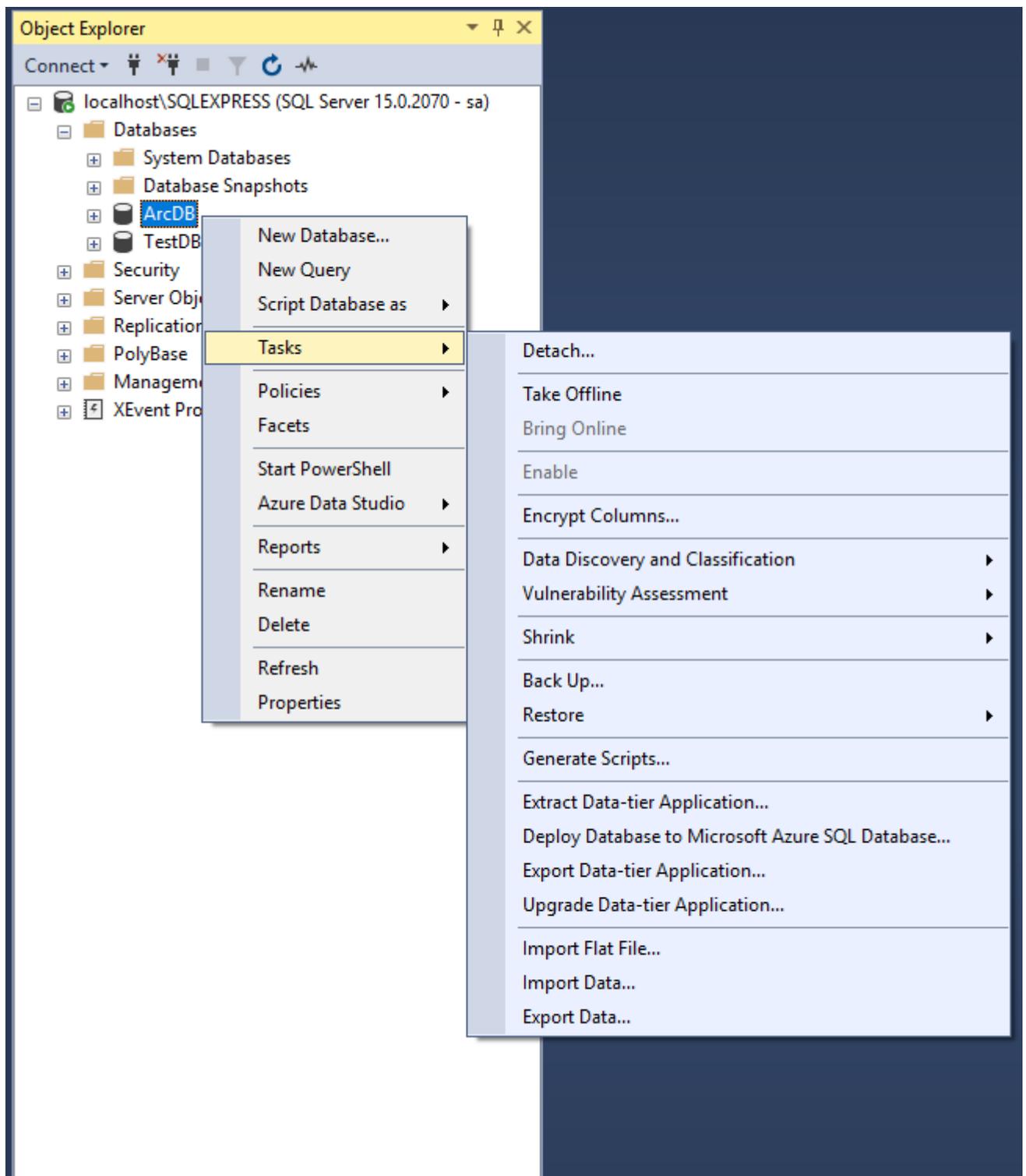
Connecting to the Database Engine

When we launch the SSMS, the **Connect to Server** dialog screen will appear in front of us. In this screen, we will set the **Server name** and **Authentication type** of the SQL Server which we want to connect to and then click the **Connect** button. In the following illustration, we will connect to a SQL Express edition with the SQL Server Authentication type. If we click on the **Remember password** option, SSMS will remember our username and password for the next connection of the same SQL Server instance:



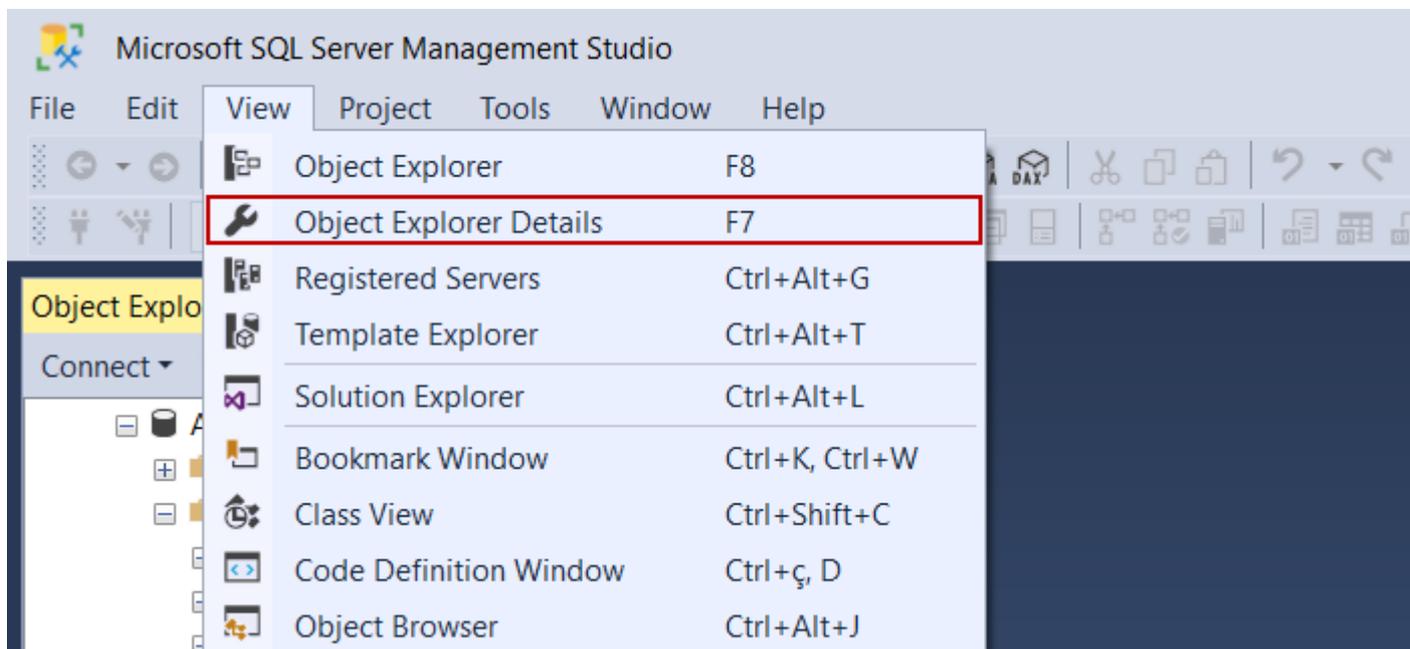
After a successful connection, the **Object Explorer** panel will appear on the left side of the main window of Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio.

On the **Object Explorer**, we can change various settings of the SQL Server Engine and deployed databases. This screen provides us to accomplish database related operations such as the backup, restore, detach, etc.:



At the same time, this screen helps us to maintain and manipulate the database objects.

Tip: Object Explorer Details panel helps us to find out more details about the server and database objects which are located under the selected folder. By default, this panel will be invisible, but we can open it under the **View** menu:



For example, if we want to obtain more details about the tables which are contained by a particular database, selecting the tables folder will be enough to see these details. In addition, we can also add different data to this tabular list according to the type of the object. For example, it allows seeing the record number of rows for the tables:

Query Editor on Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio

1. **Available Databases:** In this drop-down menu, we can determine a database on which the query will be executed
2. **Execute:** This button starts the execution of a currently active query window
3. **Cancel Executing Query:** This button stops the execution of the query
4. **Parse:** This button validates the syntax of the query, but does not check the database objects
5. **Changing query result destination:** In this button group, we can set the destination of the query result. It provides three different options:
 1. Results to Grid
 2. Results to Text
 3. Results to File
6. **Comment/Uncomment out the Selected Lines:** These buttons provide the option for commenting or uncommenting on the selected code lines:

```
--SELECT *
--FROM (VALUES
--(1,
-- 'Gertie Michener',
-- London
--),
--(2,
-- 'Colton Guion',
-- 'New York'
--),
--(3,
-- 'Ahmed Coty',
-- 'Berlin'
--),
--(4,
-- 'Devin Kimmons',
-- 'Istanbul'
--)) CustomerTable(Id, CustomerName, City)
```

Tip: Some programmers wish to see the line numbers of the code in the query editor. Therefore, we need to follow the below steps:

- Click the **Options** command, which is placed under the **Tools** menu
- Navigate to the **General** tab, which is placed under **Transact-SQL** node
- Check the **Line numbers** option