

2020 Fusion Software

2020 Fusion (Connect) and Microsoft SQL Server

5th March 2019

Introduction

2020 provides conditional support to customers who wish to use Microsoft SQL Server for hosting their 2020 Fusion 'Connect' master database system as an alternative to the standard SQLite based solution. The SQLite solution is provided using our standard installers.

Following the full replacement of the Access based solution by SQLite from Version 5 onwards, it is anticipated that the need to provide SQL Server based solutions to our customers will be diminished. In spite of this, 2020 will continue to offer the same degree of support for Microsoft SQL Server solutions as has been the case in the past; the details of which are as follows.

Given that 2020 Fusion is now a 64-bit application only, the terms of our SQL Server support have inevitably changed accordingly to only offer support against the 64-bit editions of SQL Server.

Summary

For ease of reference, the following table summarises the supported status of all Microsoft SQL Server editions against the currently supported versions of 2020 Fusion.

"Actively Supported":

These Microsoft SQL Server editions can be considered for use in conjunction with 2020 Fusion (Connect).

"Legacy Support":

This means that the 2020 Fusion (Connect) software should still run in conjunction with these Microsoft SQL Server editions. However, should any issues be identified that are directly attributable to these editions, 2020 will not provide a solution and will advise users to upgrade to a more contemporary edition of Microsoft SQL Server.

"Not Supported":

These Microsoft SQL Server editions should not be considered for use in conjunction with 2020 Fusion (Connect).

SQL Server Edition (64-Bit Only)	2020 Fusion v6
SQL Server 2014, 2016, 2017 and 2019 (upon release): Standard & Express editions using latest available Service Packs	Actively Supported
SQL Server 2008 R2 and SQL Server 2012: Standard & Express editions using latest available Service Packs	Legacy Support
SQL Server 2008 or older	Not Supported

Notes:

- It may be possible that earlier versions of 2020 Fusion (Connect) will also work in conjunction with the currently supported SQL Server editions, but these 2020 Fusion codebases are no longer actively tested and so no explicit statement of support can be made.

Additional Notes

- 2020 will not provide direct support for the set-up, installation and management of a SQL Server; our support only extends to 2020 Fusion's (Connect's) usage of the master database in this environment.
- If a customer requires a SQL Server solution, then they must possess previous experience of setting up and maintaining SQL databases. It is the responsibility of the administrator to provide backup and maintenance of the database to secure its integrity and not that of 2020.

Note: Fusion currently does not provide any automated backup solutions in an SQL Server based environment.

- 2020 does not produce standard 2020 Fusion installers for a SQL Server solution. However, 2020 can provide the necessary tools to either upsize a Connect database or to create a new SQL database directly, using a .sql query.
- The Connect application assumes full read/write access to the SQL database; it is the responsibility of the administrator to ensure that this is provided. Connect uses a .udl file to link to its database and works with either SQL Server security or Windows Built-in Security.
- The SQL database is not password protected. Therefore it is the responsibility of the administrator to ensure that the privacy of their SQL database and the data held within is maintained.
- The Connect application will perform a schema validation on start-up. This ensures that the database is in exactly the same format as the 2020 Fusion software is expecting. For this reason we do not support the modification of the database schema for any purposes.
- 2020 may instigate changes in the database schema between versions of 2020 Fusion. When this occurs, tools will be provided by 2020 in order to upgrade from the previous schema.
- Users remain free to exploit the 'read' capability of the database (for example, to produce statistics/reports). However, users must not modify any of the data held within the database.

Other Hosting Solutions

- 2020 Fusion (Connect) is not supported in conjunction with any other database hosting solution.

Note: This includes MySQL and Caché.