

# Link to SQL Server Database

**DID YOU KNOW . . .** you can link your TNT spatial objects to attributes in an SQL Server database?

## What Linking to an SQL Server Database Gives You

- Maintain spatial attributes in a central, server-based relational database
- Attribute data transparently shared with other users and software
- Linked spatial data fully portable on Windows computers in the server network
- Database log in required only when first establishing the database link
- All keyfield relationships between SQL Server tables maintained by the link
- Base element styling and DataTips on linked SQL Server attributes
- Updated attribute values automatically available in TNT upon open or refresh of table view

The image contains three screenshots from the TNT software. The top-left screenshot shows the 'Import' dialog box with 'Files to Import' and 'Import Format' sections. The top-right screenshot shows the 'Database Editor' window with a tree view of spatial elements and linked SQL Server tables. The bottom-left screenshot shows the 'Database Login' dialog box with fields for host, user name, password, and database. The bottom-right screenshot is a diagram showing a 'native TNT table' (labeled 'Intersect') linked to a 'linked SQL Server table' (labeled 'Geo'). The 'Geo' table is further linked to several other tables: 'ThresholdSize', 'MinAreaAgt', and 'VolByAgt'.

After linking the SQL Server database tables, use the Database Editor to manually assign a keyfield relationship between the root MySQL table and a native TNT table.

## How to Link to an SQL Server Database

- Make sure that the root SQL Server table has a primary key field with unique values corresponding to those in a native TNT table.
- Choose the SQL SERVER format in the Import process.
- Press the Select Data Source... button and log in to the desired database.
- Turn on the Link Only toggle in the Import Parameters window.
- Select the element database in the TNT spatial object to contain the linked representations of the SQL Server tables.
- After the link is made, use the Database Editor to relate the linked SQL Server root table to a TNT table that is attached to the spatial elements.



**WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

See the tutorial booklet:

**Importing Geodata**

