A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A DBA

1

Wake and have breakfast.
7:00 a.m.

Our DBA isn't on call this week, so there's a full night's sleep and a plate of waffles - or a bowl of cereal - on the agenda every day.

2

Handle emails, alerts, and issues.
8:00 a.m.

First things first: email! There are a small number of alerts to look into, a couple of messages that need an answer, and six or seven newsletters to catch up on. The rest of the morning passes with error log reviews and Kerberos connectivity troubleshooting.

3

Review code during a working lunch.
12:00 p.m.

Some folks from the development team have scheduled a code review for today, so our DBA shows up with several notes (and two index recommendations) in hand.

4

Watch a training video.
1:30 p.m.

The newest version of SQL Server has some excellent high availability and disaster recovery options to brush up on. Luckily, there are several good resources that cover the material, and a half-hour to devote to them.

5

Perform a mini-security audit.
2:30 p.m.

A major security audit could come at any time, so it's best for the SQL team to stay on top of any potential vulnerabilities. This mini-audit includes a check of permissions and configuration settings.

6

Query tuning.
4:00 p.m.

The team has identified a few stored procedures that could run more efficiently. So, there's a quick talk with the head developer and then they start work on the slowest queries.

We can do so much more.

No matter how well staffed, a DBA team always has another 100 tasks on the checklist each day. At MinionWare, we aim to automate as many of those tasks as possible, so your team has the time to improve and innovate.

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