



# How to Monitor SQL Server Locking (Blocking) with Sentry-go

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*Be Proactive, Not Reactive!*

Monitoring the status of the SQL Server locking system, and in particular checking & logging blocked locks is quick & simple with Sentry-go. Once configured, the monitor can periodically verify the locking system & record details of any blocking/blocked processes found. It can also take automatic action in order to release locks & allow other transactions to continue, without the need for any manual intervention.

To do this, follow these steps ...

- Start the Easy Access Utility or Client Console, select the monitor & click "Configure".  
[Click here for more information on configuring Sentry-go.](#)
- Select the "Locks" button to display the SQL Server Lock Monitoring configuration.
- Click "Add" to add a new connection.

**Add SQL Instance**

Edit SQL Connection | Response | Alert

Please define how Sentry-go should connect to this SQL Server Instance ...

In order to monitor the SQL Server, Sentry-go will connect to the Master database. Please enter connection details below ...

Connect to this SQL Server Instance ...  
Default SQL Instance

Connect using this ODBC DSN ...  
Sentry-go Native Client | New ...

Please specify the SQL Server user & password that will be used to connect to this Instance. For trusted connections, leave these fields blank ...

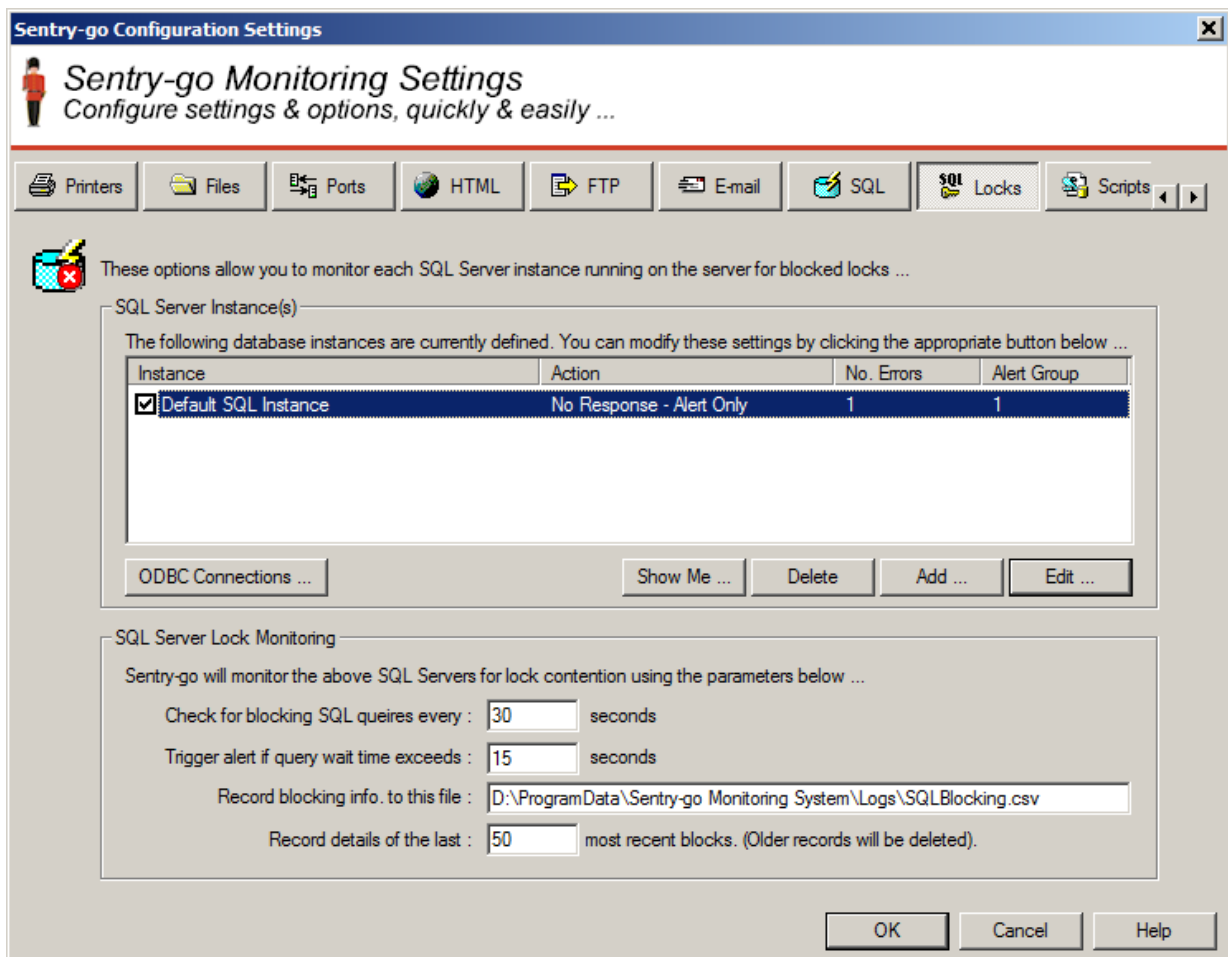
Connect with this SQL Server user : Sentry-go  
Password : [masked]

Test ...

This connection must have permission to access the MASTER database within the selected SQL Server.  
The entered (or trusted) user must have the SysAdmin database role or equivalent.

OK | Cancel | Help

- Select the SQL Server instance you wish to monitor from the dropdown list.
- Select the ODBC data source that will allow the monitor to connect to the above SQL Server. To create a new connection, click “New”, or use the Windows ODBC Data Source Administrator. *The data source must allow access to the server’s MASTER database.*  
[Click here for more information on using the ODBC Data Source Administrator.](#)
- Enter the SQL Server user ID that will allow the monitor to connect to the MASTER database or leave the user ID blank to use a trusted connection.  
[Click here for more information on using Trusted SQL Server connections with Sentry-go.](#)
- Enter the password for the above user ID, or leave the field blank for a trusted connection.
- Optionally verify connectivity & associated SQL Server permissions by clicking the “Test” button.
- Click “Response” to define any automatic action you wish Sentry-go to take in the event the check fails. These settings include ...
  - How many errors should occur in succession before action is taken.
  - The auto-response the monitor should take, if any, if the check fails.
  - To automatically terminate blocking or blocked SQL connections.
  - [Click here for more information on defining automatic responses.](#)
- Click “Alert” to define the alert that should be triggered in the event the check fails. This includes ...
  - Which group should be notified of the failure.
  - How members of the group should be notified.
  - When notifications should be run etc.
  - [Click here for more information on defining alerts.](#)
- Click OK to add the new connection and return to the main list.
- Repeat the above for any other SQL Server instances you wish to monitor on the server.



- In the lower part of the window, you define the options that are used by the monitor ...
  - Enter how often blocking should be verified (the default is every 30 seconds).
  - Enter how long a lock should wait before it is deemed to be being blocked (the default is 15 seconds).
  - Enter the full path of the CSV file that will be used to record blocking information.
  - Enter how many records should be kept before the oldest is overwritten (the default is 50).

### More Information

If you need more help or information on this topic ...

- See [Monitoring SQL Blocking/Locking](#).
- Contact our [Support Team](#).
- Watch [demonstrations & walkthrough videos on-line](#).
- Visit <http://www.Sentry-go.com>.

