

Problem solved. The full story comes later today/this week, but for now I have solved the mystery error "Incorrect syntax near ''". when using the [WsusDBMaintenance](#) script.

When copying the script from the webpage and paste this script in de SQLQuery window on "Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio the following errors occurs.

```
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 5
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 30
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 48
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 61
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 62
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 65
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 83
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 84
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 85
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 86
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 88
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 89
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 90
Msg 156, Level 15, State 1, Line 94
Incorrect syntax near the keyword 'CLOSE'.
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 100
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 101
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 102
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 108
Incorrect syntax near 'END'.
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1, Line 5
```

It seems the script is running well but I am not sure of it. A search on the internet mentioned that copying/paste this script directly to the sqlquery is not a good idea and you should do it via notepad to avoid copying format characters. For me this was not the solution so I went troubleshooting by myself.

I narrowed my search to the first error. Line 5. The linenumber is misleading in this case because the numbering (Sqlinterpreter/compiler) ignores the empty and remark lines.

```
DECLARE @work_to_doTABLE (  
    objectid int  
)
```

With this the error was in line 2. When I remove the "spaces" before objectid the error went away. Strange, they look like spaces. When I paste such a space in Notepad++ and convert this space to a Hex-format the code C2A0 is generated, a normal space is code 20 (Decimal 32). A googlesearch clarified that C2A0 is from the UTF-8 encoding table and is the "NO-BREAK SPACE" symbol.

Solution: After replacing the "wrong" spaces with the "real" spaces (search/replace) and paste the script in the SqlQuery windows, executed it, and no errors were reported. I noticed the script runs for a longer time so properly the script wasn't running well in the first place. The Query executed successfully.