pgAdmin Cheat Sheet

A collection of how-tos and shortcuts to help you use pgAdmin

Ben Brumm

www.databasestar.com
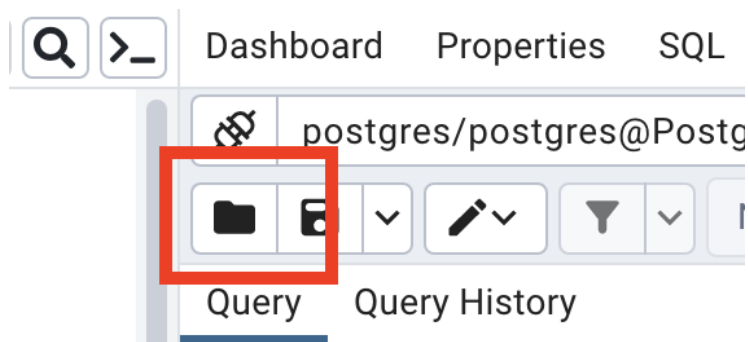
How To

Open and Run an SQL File

To open and run an SQL file:

Step 1: Open a new Query Tool by clicking the button in the toolbar or going to Tools > Query Tool

Step 2: Click on the Open button on the toolbar

Step 3: Browse to the SQL file and open it.

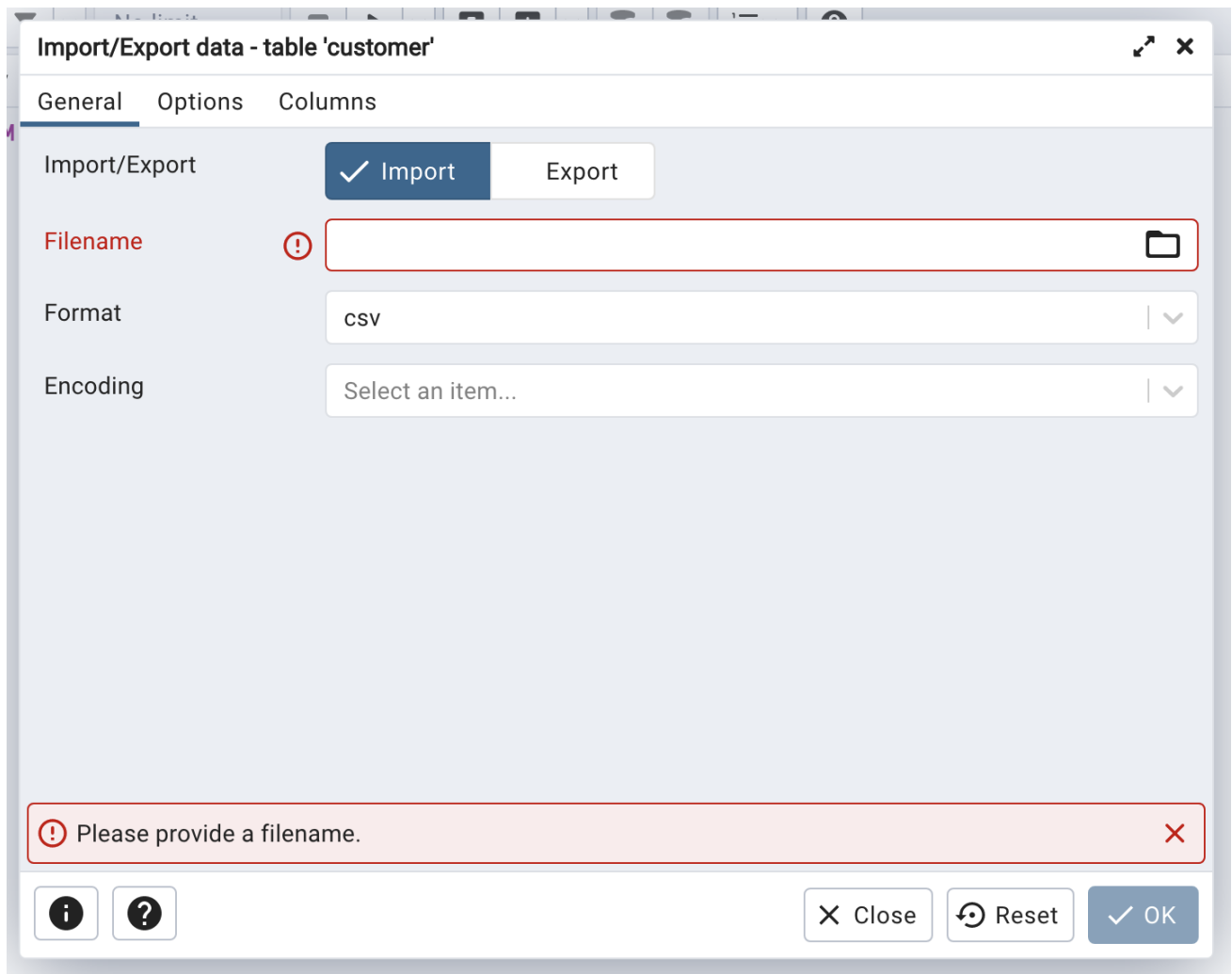**Step 4**: Run the script by clicking Execute or pressing F5.

Import a CSV File

To import a CSV file into your database, you must have a table created already.

Once you have a table created:

Step 1: Click on the table in the object browser on the left to select it.

Step 2: Go to Tools > Import/Export Data, or right-click on the table and select Import/Export Data

Step 3: Select a file to import

Step 4: Select any other options you want for your file, such as file format and header.

Step 5: Click OK to import the data.

Export Table Data

To export data from your table:

Step 1: Click on the table in the object browser on the left to select it.

Step 2: Go to Tools > Import/Export Data, or right-click on the table and select Import/Export Data

Step 3: Select Export at the top of the window.

Step 4: Select a filename to export to.

Step 5: Select any other options for your export.

Step 6: Click Export

Connect to a Database

A database connection in pgAdmin is called a Server. To create a connection you "register a new Server".

Step 1: Right-click on the Servers entry on the left panel, and select Register, then Server.

Step 2: Enter a name for the server, a hostname, and a password.

Step 3: Click Save.

See Tables in the Database

To see the tables in your database, you can view them in the object explorer, or run SQL.

To view them in the object explorer:

Step 1: In the left panel, expand Servers, then your Server, then Databases, then your database name.

Step 2: Expand Schemas, then your schema name, then tables.

You'll see a list of tables.

Here's an example of the tree structure in the object explorer:

- Servers
  - PostgreSQL 14
    - Databases
      - postgres

○ Schemas
 ■ public
  ● Tables
   ○ (list of tables)

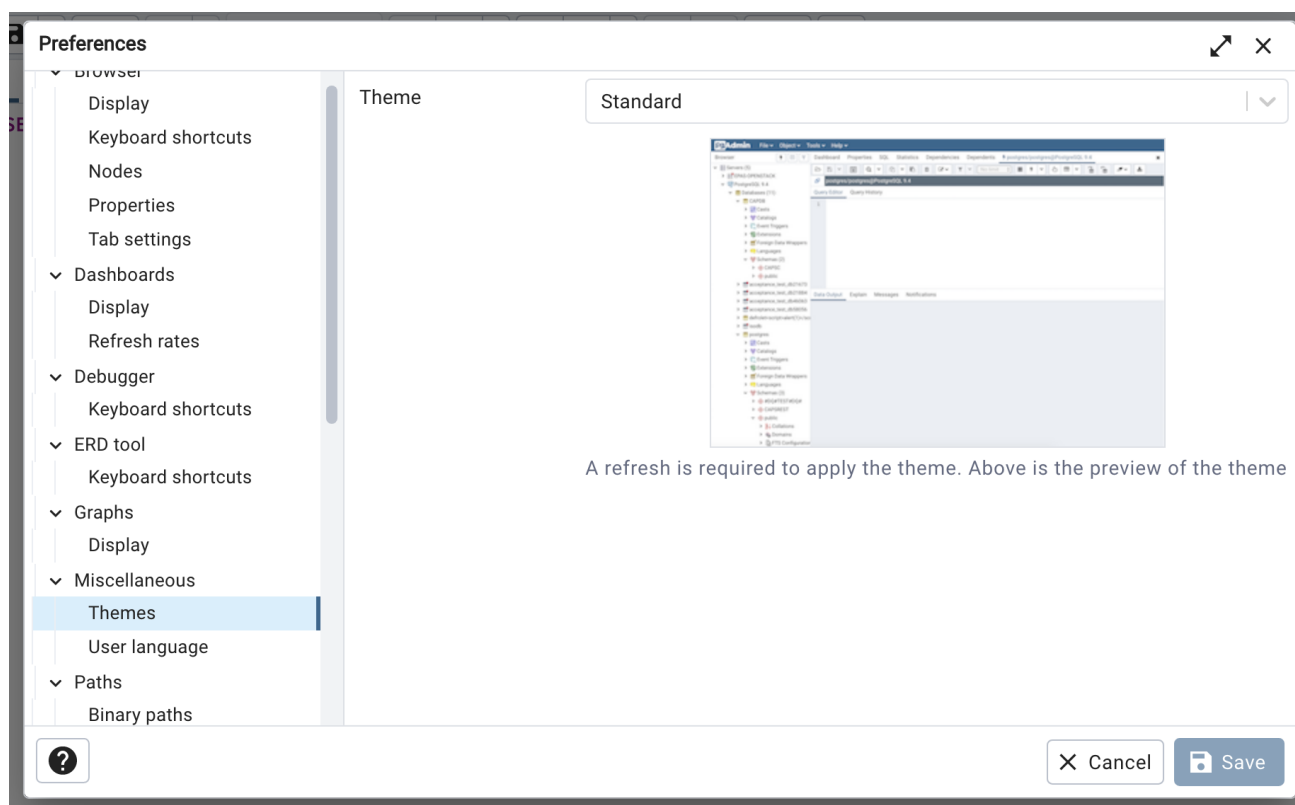To see a list of tables you can also run this SQL statement:

```
SELECT *
FROM information_schema.tables;
```

Set Dark Mode

pgAdmin includes a Dark Mode setting. To enable this:

Step 1: Go to File, then Preferences.

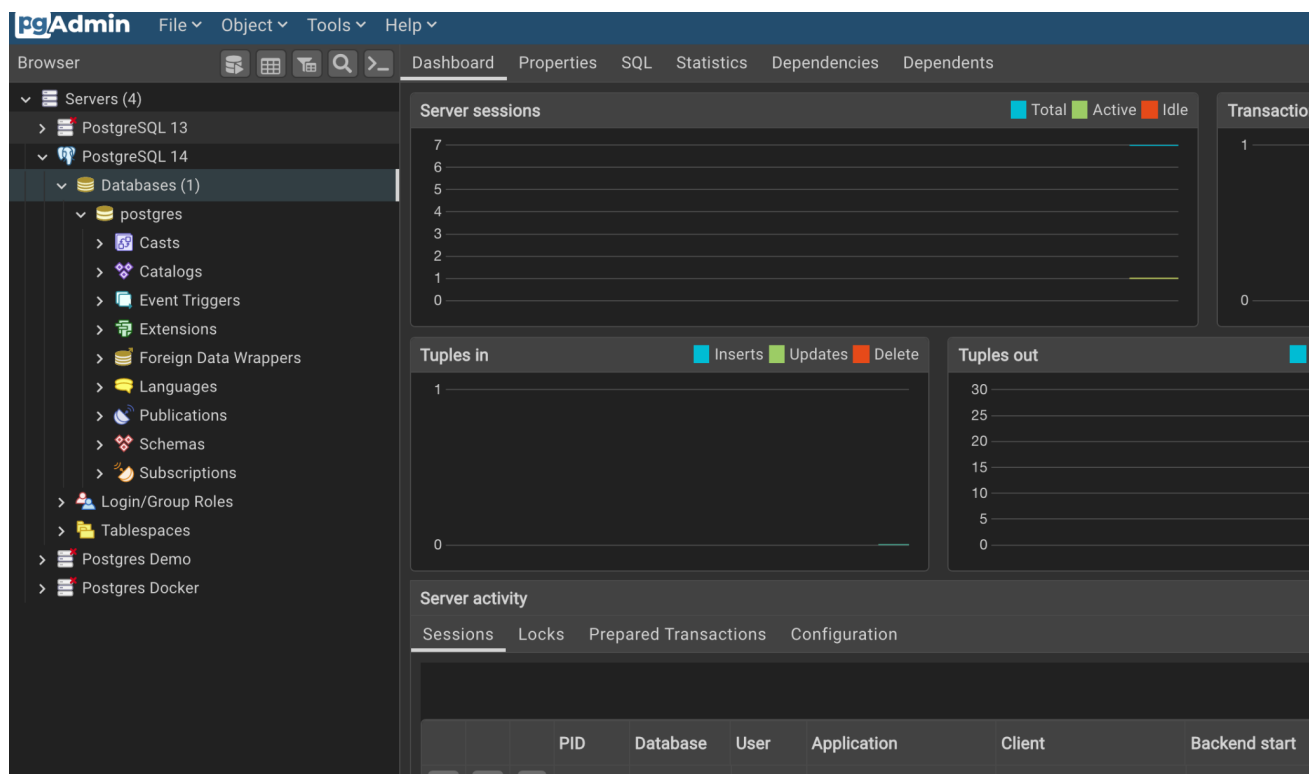**Step 2**: Scroll down to Miscellaneous and select Themes.

Step 3: Select Dark from the drop-down list.

Step 4: Click Save

Step 5: Click Refresh when prompted.

pgAdmin will then reload and be shown in Dark Mode.

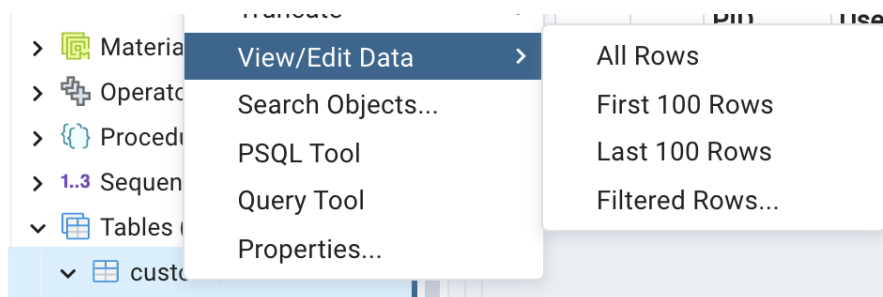## See a Sample of Table Data

You can see a sample of data in a table without writing a SELECT query yourself.

To do this:

Step 1: Right-click on a table in the object explorer.

Step 2: Select View/Edit Data, and then select an option from the menu: All Rows, First 100 Rows, Last 100 Rows, or Filtered Rows

You'll then see an SQL statement written and executed, showing you the results.

Helpful Shortcuts

Here are some helpful shortcuts for pgAdmin. These are the defaults and can be changed in the Preferences window.

Action	Shortcut
Open Query Tool	Shift + Alt/Option + Q
Quick Search	Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + F
Search Objects	Shift + Alt/Option + S
Auto Complete	Ctrl/Cmd + Space
Open File	Ctrl/Cmd + Alt/Option + O
Save File	Ctrl/Cmd + Alt/Option + S
Commit	Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + M
Rollback	Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + R
Execute Query	F5
Explain Query	F7
Explain Analyse	Shift + F7
Download Results	F8
Next Tab	Shift + Alt/Option +]
Previous Tab	Shift + Alt/Option + [
Toggle Case of Selected Text	Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + U

Preferences to Consider

There are many preferences in pgAdmin that can be changed from within the File > Preferences menu. Here are some you may want to consider changing.

Keywords and Auto Complete

Keywords that are added using auto complete are added in upper case by default. If you prefer lower case, you can change this:

Preferences > Query Tool > Auto Completion

Font Size

The font size is set to 1 by default and is measured in "em". This can be changed:

Preferences > Query Tool > Editor > Font Size

Autocommit

Automatically committing queries (autocommit) is turned on my default. You can change this:

Preferences > Query Tool > Options > Auto Commit

SQL Formatting

There's a built-in SQL formatter in pgAdmin. You can change the settings that the formatter uses, such as comma first notation, upper or lower case keywords, indentation, tab size, and more:

Preferences > Query Tool > SQL Formatting.

Conclusion

I hope this guide has been helpful for you and your usage of pgAdmin.

Thanks,

Ben Brumm

www.DatabaseStar.com