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```
mial@HackWare:~  
Файл Правка Вид Поиск Терминал Справка  
● postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server  
  Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/postgresql.service; disabled; vend  
  Active: active (running) since Mon 2020-04-20 12:31:04 MSK; 1h 5min ago  
  Process: 63723 ExecStartPre=/usr/bin/postgresql-check-db-dir ${PGROOT}/data  
  Main PID: 63725 (postgres)  
    Tasks: 7 (limit: 38346)  
  Memory: 17.1M  
  CGroup: /system.slice/postgresql.service  
          └─63725 /usr/bin/postgres -D /var/lib/postgres/data  
            └─63727 postgres: checkpointer  
              └─63728 postgres: background writer  
                └─63729 postgres: walwriter  
                  └─63730 postgres: autovacuum launcher  
                    └─63731 postgres: stats collector  
                      └─63732 postgres: logical replication launcher  
  
апр 20 12:31:04 HackWare systemd[1]: Starting PostgreSQL database server...  
апр 20 12:31:04 HackWare postgres[63725]: 2020-04-20 12:31:04.553 MSK [63725] C>  
апр 20 12:31:04 HackWare postgres[63725]: 2020-04-20 12:31:04.553 MSK [63725] C>  
апр 20 12:31:04 HackWare postgres[63725]: 2020-04-20 12:31:04.553 MSK [63725] C>  
апр 20 12:31:04 HackWare postgres[63725]: 2020-04-20 12:31:04.555 MSK [63725] C>  
апр 20 12:31:04 HackWare postgres[63726]: 2020-04-20 12:31:04.569 MSK [63726] C>  
апр 20 12:31:04 HackWare postgres[63725]: 2020-04-20 12:31:04.573 MSK [63725] C>  
lines 1-23
```

PostgreSQL error “An old version of the database format was found” (SOLVED)

June 8, 2021



Warning: The following instructions could cause data loss. Do not run the commands below blindly, without understanding what they do. Backup database first.

If, while starting the PostgreSQL service:

```
1 | sudo systemctl start postgresql.service
```

it didn't work and the following message came up:

```
1 | Job for postgresql.service failed because the control process exited with error code; see 'systemctl status postgresql.service' and 'journalctl -xe' for details.
```

Then check the status of this service:

```
1 | systemctl status postgresql.service
```

In my case, this is:

```
1 | • postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server
2 |   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/postgresql.service; disabled; vendor preset: enabled)
3 |   Active: failed (Result: exit-code) since Mon 2020-04-20 12:23:08 MSK; 8s ago
4 |   Process: 63126 ExecStartPre=/usr/bin/postgresql-check-db-dir ${PGROOT}/data (code=exited, status=1)
5 |
6 | anp 20 12:23:08 HackWare systemd[1]: Starting PostgreSQL database server...
7 | anp 20 12:23:08 HackWare postgres[63126]: An old version of the database format was found, please
8 | anp 20 12:23:08 HackWare postgres[63126]: See https://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php/postgresql#Upgrading
9 | anp 20 12:23:08 HackWare systemd[1]: postgresql.service: Control process exited, code=exited, status=1
10 | anp 20 12:23:08 HackWare systemd[1]: postgresql.service: Failed with result 'exit-code'.
11 | anp 20 12:23:08 HackWare systemd[1]: Failed to start PostgreSQL database server.
```

2

```
1 | An old version of the database format was found.
```

[https://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php/PostgreSQL#Upgrading PostgreSQL](https://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php/PostgreSQL#Upgrading_PostgreSQL)

due to innovations their schema may change.

PostgreSQL service is down, even though it has never been used.

OPEN

Stop the service before updating if it is still running:

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```
1 | sudo systemctl stop postgresql.service
2 | systemctl status postgresql.service
```

To upgrade databases, you need the executable files of the previous version of PostgreSQL, they are located in the **postgresql-old-upgrade** package, install it and upgrade PostgreSQL:

```
1 | sudo pacman -S postgresql postgresql-libs postgresql-old-upgrade
```

Move the old data and initialize the database:

```
1 | sudo mv /var/lib/postgres/data /var/lib/postgres/olddata
2 | sudo mkdir /var/lib/postgres/data /var/lib/postgres/tmp
3 | sudo chown postgres:postgres /var/lib/postgres/data /var/lib/postgres/tmp
4 | cd /var/lib/postgres/tmp
5 | sudo -u postgres initdb -D /var/lib/postgres/data
```

The following command will transfer data from the old cluster to the new one, in this command you need to replace **PG_VERSION** with the version of the previous database:

```
1 | sudo -u postgres pg_upgrade -b /opt/pgsql-PG_VERSION/bin -B /usr/bin -d /var/lib/p
```

For example:

```
1 | sudo -u postgres pg_upgrade -b /opt/pgsql-12/bin -B /usr/bin -d /var/lib/postgres,
```

After that, start the service again and check its status:

```
1 | sudo systemctl start postgresql.service
2 | systemctl status postgresql.service
```

How to upgrade PostgreSQL databases without saving information

So, to initialize the new PostgreSQL format database run the following commands:

```
1 | sudo mv /var/lib/postgres/data /var/lib/postgres/olddata
2 | sudo mkdir /var/lib/postgres/data /var/lib/postgres/tmp
3 | sudo chown postgres:postgres /var/lib/postgres/data /var/lib/postgres/tmp
4 | cd /var/lib/postgres/tmp
5 | sudo -u postgres initdb -D /var/lib/postgres/data
```

After that, start the service again and check its status:



```
1 | sudo systemctl start postgresql.service
2 | systemctl status postgresql.service
```

```
mial@HackWare:~
Файл  Правка  Вид  Поиск  Терминал  Справка
● postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/postgresql.service; disabled; vendor preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Mon 2020-04-20 12:31:04 MSK; 1h 5min ago
   Process: 63723 ExecStartPre=/usr/bin/postgresql-check-db-dir ${PGROOT}/data (code=0)
   Main PID: 63725 (postgres)
     Tasks: 7 (limit: 38346)
    Memory: 17.1M
    CGroup: /system.slice/postgresql.service
            └─63725 /usr/bin/postgres -D /var/lib/postgres/data
              └─63727 postgres: checkpointer
                └─63728 postgres: background writer
                  └─63729 postgres: walwriter
                    └─63730 postgres: autovacuum launcher
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lines 1-23
```

More information can be found in the official Wiki:
https://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php/PostgreSQL#Upgrading_PostgreSQL

Possible errors and solutions

1.

If while running the command

```
1 | sudo mv /var/lib/postgres/data /var/lib/postgres/olddata
```

you encounter an error

```
1 | mv: cannot move '/var/lib/postgres/data' to '/var/lib/postgres/olddata/data': Dir
```

then it means that you have already upgraded the database, saving the previous database to the `/var/lib/postgres/olddata/data` directory. You can save the next database to another directory, or simply delete the existing one:

```
1 | sudo rm -rf /var/lib/postgres/olddata/data
```

2.

If during command execution

```
1 | sudo mkdir /var/lib/postgres/data /var/lib/postgres/tmp
```

you encountered an error

```
1 | mkdir: cannot create directory '/var/lib/postgres/tmp': File exists
```

then just skip the given command, since the `/var/lib/postgres/tmp` directory already exists.

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Alex

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5 OBSERVATIONS ON “POSTGRESQL ERROR “AN OLD VERSION OF THE DATABASE FORMAT WAS FOUND” (SOLVED)”



icancto

April 25, 2022 at 10:47 pm

```
[~postgres/tmp]$ sudo -u postgres pg_upgrade -b /opt/pgsql-13/bin -B /usr/bin -d /var/lib/postgres/olddata -D /var/lib/postgres/data
```

for some reason when running this I get the following:

could not open version file "/var/lib/postgres/olddata/Pg_VERSION": Permission denied

Reply



Alex

April 26, 2022 at 1:59 am

Hello! It looks like a file permissions issue. You can check the owner and file permissions with the command:

```
1 | sudo ls -l /var/lib/postgres/olddata/PG_VERSION
```

Output example:

```
1 | -rw----- 1 postgres postgres 3 Nov 30 2018 /var/lib/postgres/olddata.
```

So, the owner of the file is the postgres user. If in your case the owner of the file is another user, for example root, then try to change ownership of the file:

```
1 | sudo chown postgres /var/lib/postgres/olddata/PG_VERSION
```

Reply



Dillah

May 20, 2022 at 3:39 am

when I run this

```
sudo -u postgres pg_upgrade -b /opt/pgsql-13/bin -B /usr/bin -d /var/lib/postgres/olddata -D /var/lib/postgres/data
```

I get following

```
could not open log file "pg_upgrade_internal.log": Permission denied
Failure, exiting
```

is there any solution?

Reply



Alex

May 21, 2022 at 2:47 am

Hello! Like previous comments, this looks like a file permissions issue. First try to find the file:

```
1 | locate pg_upgrade_internal.log
```

Output on my OS:

```
1 | /var/lib/postgres/tmp/pg_upgrade_internal.log
```

Check the owner and permissions of the file with the command:

```
1 | sudo ls -l /var/lib/postgres/tmp/pg_upgrade_internal.log
```

Output example:


```
1 | -rw----- 1 postgres postgres 501 Jun 8 2021 /var/lib/postgres/tmp/pg.
```

So, the owner of the file is the postgres user. If in your case the owner of the file is another user, for example root, then try to change ownership of the file:

```
1 | sudo chown postgres /var/lib/postgres/tmp/pg_upgrade_internal.log
```

If the pg_upgrade_internal.log file is not found, check the permissions of the directory where it should be created:

```
1 | sudo ls -dl /var/lib/postgres/tmp/  
2 | drwxr-xr-x 2 postgres postgres 4096 Jun 8 2021 /var/lib/postgres/tmp/
```

Reply



Varaskkar

February 5, 2023 at 5:09 pm

Hi Alex, it worked the first time, I owe you my life!

On Friday I updated Manjaro and postgresql stopped working when I upgraded from version 14 to 15, I thought I was in trouble because the DB had important data. The big lesson of all this is to make periodical backups or install packages with fixed versions ("pacman -S postgresql-12" for example).

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