PostgreSQL Backup

# Introduction

This document provides instructions for creating a simple backup solution for PostgreSQL on a Windows system using a batch file and scheduling this script to run regularly using Windows Task Scheduler.

# Creating the Batch File for PostgreSQL Backup

1. Open Notepad or any text editor.

2. Enter the script below, replacing placeholders with your actual values:

@echo off

set PGPASSWORD=root

set USER=user

set DBNAME=postgres

set BACKUP\_DIR=C:\Users\USER\Desktop\

set BACKUP\_FILE=C:\Users\USER\Desktop\postgresBackup.sql

echo Backing up database %DBNAME% to %BACKUP\_FILE%

"C:\Program Files\PostgreSQL\16\bin\pg\_dump.exe" -U %USER% %DBNAME% > %BACKUP\_FILE%

3. Repleace the “USER” values with your actual user.

4. Check your "C:\Program Files\PostgreSQL\x\bin” and replace “x” with your Postgres version.

5. Save the file with a `.bat` extension, e.g., `pg\_backup.bat`.

# Scheduling Your Batch File with Windows Task Scheduler

To automate your backup process, you can schedule the batch file to run at regular intervals using Windows Task Scheduler:

1. Right click on the Start Menu.

2. Click on Computer Management.

A screenshot of a computer menu

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3. Create a new task: In the Actions panel, choose "Create Task...".

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4. General tab: Give your task a name, e.g., "PostgreSQL Backup".

5. Triggers tab: Click "New..." to define when the backup should run (daily, weekly, etc.). You also must select the day of the week. See photo for reference.

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6. Actions tab: Click "New...", then browse and select your `pg\_backup.bat` file. The action should be "Start a program".

7. Conditions and Settings tabs: Adjust these as necessary, also, the defaults should be sufficient.

8. Save your task by clicking "OK".

9. Your batch file will now run according to the schedule you set, automating your PostgreSQL database backups. Remember to periodically check your backups for integrity and practice restoring your database from a backup to ensure your system is reliable.