CURSOR

Cursor declarations must appear before handler declarations. Variable and condition declarations must appear before cursor or handler declarations.

This statement declares a cursor and associates it with a SELECT statement that retrieves the rows to be traversed by the cursor.

DECLARE cursor\_name CURSOR FOR select\_statement

This statement opens a previously declared cursor.

OPEN cursor\_name

This statement fetches the next row for the SELECT statement associated with the specified cursor (which must be open), and advances the cursor pointer. If a row exists, the fetched columns are stored in the named variables. The number of columns retrieved by the SELECT statement must match the number of output variables specified in the FETCH statement

FETCH [[NEXT] FROM] cursor\_name INTO var\_name [, var\_name] ...

If no more rows are available, a No Data condition.

This statement closes a previously opened cursor.

CLOSE cursor\_name

**What is a Cursor in PostgreSQL?**

* A **cursor in**[**PostgreSQL**](https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/postgresql-tutorial/)is a database object that enables traversal over the result set of a query. It acts as a **pointer**that allows us to **fetch**rows sequentially.
* **PostgreSQL cursors** are particularly useful when working with large tables containing millions of records where traditional [**SELECT**](https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/postgresql-select/)operations may lead to performance issues or even out-of-memory errors.

**Syntax:**

DO $$

DECLARE

rec RECORD;

cur CURSOR FOR SELECT id, name FROM employees;

BEGIN

OPEN cur;

LOOP

FETCH cur INTO rec;

EXIT WHEN NOT FOUND;

RAISE NOTICE 'ID: %, Name: %', rec.id, rec.name;

END LOOP;

CLOSE cur;

END $$;