

PostgreSQL: Complete List of Commands with Examples

1. SQL Commands (Expanded)

Command Type	Command	Example
DDL (Data Definition)	CREATE	CREATE TABLE students (id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY, name VARCHAR(50));
DDL	ALTER	ALTER TABLE students ADD COLUMN age INT;
DDL	DROP	DROP TABLE students;
DML (Data Manipulation)	INSERT	INSERT INTO students (name, age) VALUES ('Alice', 25);
DML	UPDATE	UPDATE students SET age = 26 WHERE name = 'Alice';
DML	DELETE	DELETE FROM students WHERE age < 20;
DML	SELECT	SELECT * FROM students WHERE age > 25;
DCL (Data Control)	GRANT	GRANT SELECT ON students TO guest;
DCL	REVOKE	REVOKE SELECT ON students FROM guest;
TCL (Transaction Control)	COMMIT	COMMIT;
TCL	ROLLBACK	ROLLBACK;
TCL	SAVEPOINT	SAVEPOINT sp1;
TCL	RELEASE SAVEPOINT	RELEASE SAVEPOINT sp1;
Admin	SHOW	SHOW search_path;
Admin	SET	SET timezone = 'UTC';
Utility	EXPLAIN	EXPLAIN SELECT * FROM students;
Utility	ANALYZE	ANALYZE students;
Backup	pg_dump	pg_dump -U postgres mydb > backup.sql
Restore	psql	psql -U postgres mydb < backup.sql

2. Administration & Utility Commands

Command	Description	Example
psql	Interactive terminal	psql -U postgres -d mydb
\l	List all databases	\l
\dt	List all tables	\dt
\d table_name	Describe a table	\d students
VACUUM	Reclaim storage	VACUUM ANALYZE students;

REINDEX	Rebuild index	REINDEX TABLE students;
CLUSTER	Reorganize table	CLUSTER students;
LOGOUT	Exit psql	\q