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Warning: This documentation is for a pre-release version of pgAdmin 4

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Primary key Dialog

Use the *Primary key* dialog to create or modify a primary key constraint. A primary key constraint indicates that a column, or group of columns, uniquely identifies rows in a table. This requires that the values in the selected column(s) be both unique and not null.

The *Primary key* dialog organizes the development of a primary key constraint through the *General* and *Definition* tabs. The *SQL* tab displays the SQL code generated by dialog selections.

The screenshot shows the 'Create - Primary key' dialog box with the 'General' tab selected. The 'Name' field contains 'pr_customer'. The 'Comment' field is empty. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Cancel', 'Reset', and 'Save', along with information and help icons.

Use the fields in the *General* tab to identify the primary key:

- Use the *Name* field to add a descriptive name for the primary key constraint. The name will be displayed in the *pgAdmin* tree control.

Click the *Definition* tab to continue.

The screenshot shows the 'Create - Primary key' dialog box with the 'Definition' tab selected. The 'Columns' field contains 'x_c_custkey'. The 'Include columns' field contains 'x_c_custkey' and 'x_c_name'. The 'Tablespace' field is set to 'pg_default'. The 'Index' field is set to 'Select from the list'. The 'Fill factor' field is empty. The 'Deferrable?' and 'Deferred?' fields are both set to 'No'. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Cancel', 'Reset', and 'Save', along with information and help icons.

Use the fields in the *Definition* tab to define the primary key constraint:

- Click inside the *Columns* field and select one or more column names from the drop-down listbox. To delete a selection, click the x to the left of the column name. The primary key constraint should be different from any unique constraint defined for the same table; the selected column(s) for the constraints must be distinct.

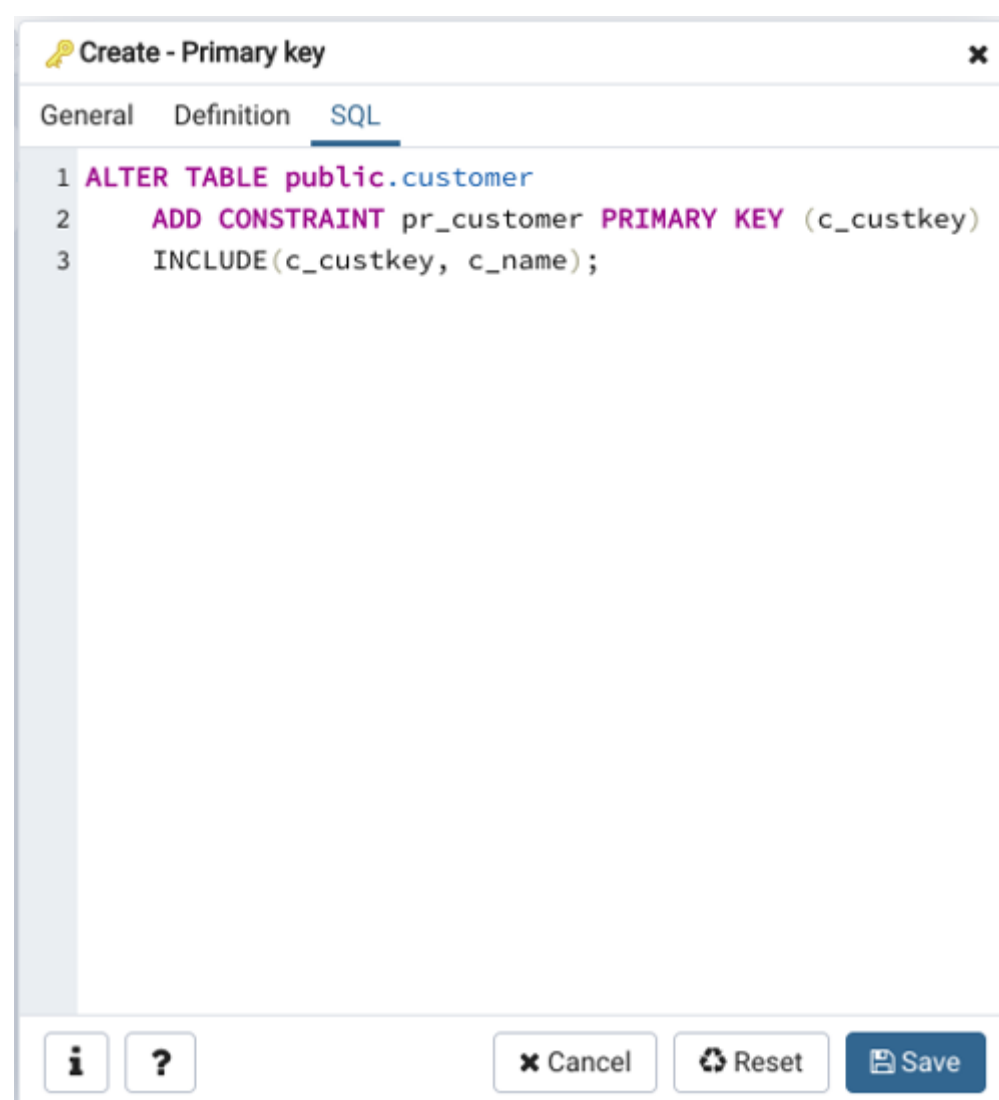
- Use *Include columns* field to specify columns for *INCLUDE* clause of the index. This option is available in Postgres 11 and later.
- Select the name of the tablespace in which the primary key constraint will reside from the drop-down listbox in the *Tablespace* field.
- Select the name of an index from the drop-down listbox in the *Index* field. This field is optional. Adding a primary key will automatically create a unique B-tree index on the column or group of columns listed in the primary key, and will force the column(s) to be marked NOT NULL.
- Use the *Fill Factor* field to specify a fill factor for the table and index. The fill factor for a table is a percentage between 10 and 100. 100 (complete packing) is the default.
- Move the *Deferrable?* switch to the *Yes* position to specify the timing of the constraint is deferrable and can be postponed until the end of the statement. The default is *No*.
- If enabled, move the *Deferred?* switch to the *Yes* position to specify the timing of the constraint is deferred to the end of the statement. The default is *No*.

Click the *SQL* tab to continue.

Your entries in the *Primary key* dialog generate a SQL command (see an example below). Use the *SQL* tab for review; revisit or switch tabs to make any changes to the SQL command.

Example ¶

The following is an example of the sql command generated by user selections in the *Primary key* dialog:



The example shown demonstrates creating a primary key constraint named *dept_pkey* on the *dept_id* column of the *dept* table.

- Click the *Info* button (i) to access online help.
- Click the *Save* button to save work.
- Click the *Cancel* button to exit without saving work.
- Click the *Reset* button to restore configuration parameters.