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

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Cast Dialog

Use the *Cast* dialog to define a cast. A cast specifies how to convert a value from one data type to another.

The *Cast* dialog organizes the development of a cast through the following dialog tabs: *General* and *Definition*. The *SQL* tab displays the SQL code generated by dialog selections.

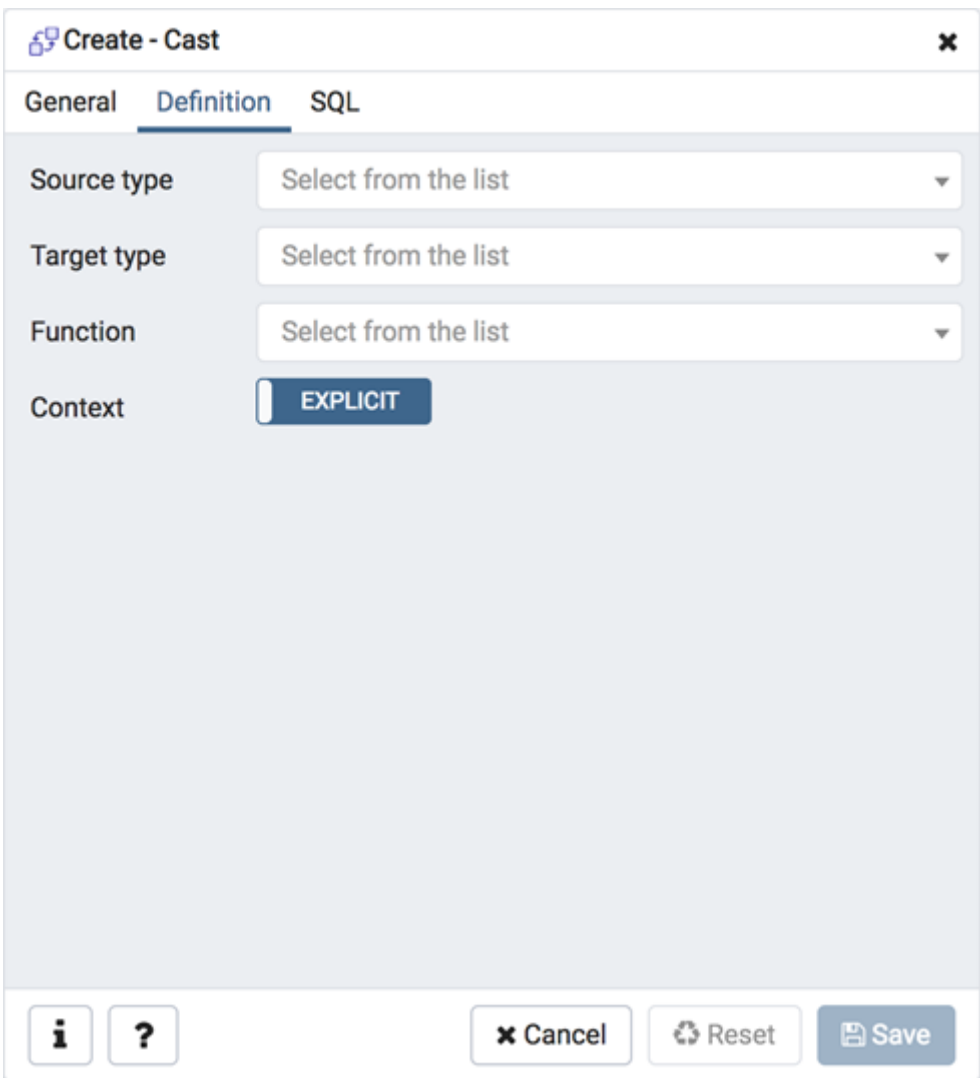


The screenshot shows the 'Create - Cast' dialog box with the 'General' tab selected. The dialog has a title bar with a close button. Below the title bar are three tabs: 'General', 'Definition', and 'SQL'. The 'General' tab is active and contains two fields: 'Name' and 'Comment'. The 'Name' field is a text box that is disabled. The 'Comment' field is a larger text area. At the bottom of the dialog are four buttons: an information icon, a help icon, a 'Cancel' button, a 'Reset' button, and a 'Save' button.

Use the fields in the *General* tab to identify the cast:

- The *Name* field is disabled. The name that will be displayed in the *pgAdmin* tree control is the *Source* type concatenated with the *Target* type, and is generated automatically when you make selections on the *Cast* dialog *Definition* tab.
- Store notes about the cast in the *Comment* field.

Click the *Definition* tab to continue.



The screenshot shows the 'Create - Cast' dialog box with the 'Definition' tab selected. The dialog has a title bar with a close button. Below the title bar are three tabs: 'General', 'Definition', and 'SQL'. The 'Definition' tab is active and contains four fields: 'Source type', 'Target type', 'Function', and 'Context'. Each of the first three fields is a dropdown menu with the text 'Select from the list'. The 'Context' field is a radio button with the label 'EXPLICIT'. At the bottom of the dialog are four buttons: an information icon, a help icon, a 'Cancel' button, a 'Reset' button, and a 'Save' button.

Use the fields in the *Definition* tab to define parameters:

- Use the drop-down listbox next to *Source type* to select the name of the source data type of the cast.
- Use the drop-down listbox next to *Target type* to select the name of the target data type of the cast.
- Use the drop-down listbox next to *Function* to select the function used to perform the cast. The function's result data type must match the target type of the cast.
- Move the *Context* switch to the *Implicit* position if the cast is implicit. By default, a cast can be invoked only by an explicit cast request. If the cast is marked *Implicit* then it can be invoked implicitly in any context, whether by assignment or internally in an expression.

Click the *SQL* tab to continue.

Your entries in the *Cast* 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 *Cast* dialog:



The cast uses a function named *int4(bigint)* to convert a biginteger data type to an integer.

- 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.