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# Workspace

Workspaces hold vector layers. A Workspace can be a GeoPackage database, a directory of Shapefiles, or a PostGIS database.

## Basics

You can open, close, and list Workspaces. The earliest Workspace to open is an in memory Workspace.

### Open

Open a Workspace.

| Name   | Description               | Mandatory | Specified Default | Unspecified Default |
|--------|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|
| name   | The Workspace name        | true      |                   |                     |
| params | The connection parameters | true      |                   |                     |

```
geo-shell> workspace open --name mem --params memory
Workspace mem opened!
```

You can open a Workspace with --params or connection parameters. You can give it a name with --name flag.

### List

List open Workspaces. NOTE: No parameters

```
geo-shell> workspace list
mem = Memory
```

Listing open Workspaces give you the name and the type Workspace.

### Close

Close a Workspace.

| Name | Description        | Mandatory | Specified Default | Unspecified Default |
|------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|
| name | The Workspace name | true      |                   |                     |

```
geo-shell> workspace close --name mem
Workspace mem closed!
```

Once you close a Workspace by name it will no longer appear with the list command.

## Layers

List the Layer in a Workspaces.

| Name | Description        | Mandatory | Specified Default | Unspecified Default |
|------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|
| name | The Workspace name | true      |                   |                     |

In this example, we will open a GeoPackage database filled with data from Natural Earth.

*Open a Workspace*

```
geo-shell> workspace open --name naturalearth --params src/test/resources/naturalearth.gpkg  
Workspace naturalearth opened!
```

*List open Workspaces*

```
geo-shell> workspace layers --name naturalearth  
countries  
ocean  
places  
states
```

*Close a Workspace*

```
geo-shell> workspace close --name naturalearth  
Workspace naturalearth closed!
```