PostgreSQL Notes

(From Basics to Advanced with Definitions & Examples)

What is PostgreSQL?

- PostgreSQL is an advanced open-source relational database management system (RDBMS).
- It supports SQL and NoSQL features like JSON.
- Known for performance, reliability, and extensibility.
- Often called Post SQL.

🔑 Key Features

- ACID compliant (Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation, Durability)
- Supports complex SQL queries, joins, and transactions
- Supports JSON, XML, Arrays
- User-defined types, functions, and stored procedures
- Full-text search
- MVCC (Multi-Version Concurrency Control)



sql CopyEdit

```
-- Create Database
CREATE DATABASE college;
-- Connect to Database
\c college
-- Create Table
CREATE TABLE students (
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
 name VARCHAR(100),
 age INT,
 course VARCHAR(50)
);
-- Insert Data
INSERT INTO students (name, age, course) VALUES ('Dhanush', 21,
'BCA');
-- Query Data
SELECT * FROM students;
```

B Data Types in PostgreSQL

| Category | Data Types | Example |
|-----------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Numeric | INT, BIGINT, SERIAL, NUMERIC | 100, 100000, 3.14 |
| String | VARCHAR(n), TEXT, CHAR(n) | 'Hello' |
| Date/Time | DATE, TIME, TIMESTAMP | '2025-07-26' |
| Boolean | BOOLEAN | TRUE, FALSE |
| Special | JSON, ARRAY, UUID | ['A', 'B'], JSON |



```
CopyEdit
```

```
CREATE TABLE users (
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
  username VARCHAR(50) UNIQUE NOT NULL,
  email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL,
  age INT CHECK (age >= 18)
);
```

Constraint Purpose

PRIMARY KEY Uniquely identifies a row

UNIQUE No duplicate values

NOT NULL Must have a value

CHECK Validates condition

FOREIGN KEY Links to another table

Query Examples

sql

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```
SELECT * FROM students WHERE age > 20;
SELECT name FROM students ORDER BY age DESC LIMIT 3;
SELECT course, COUNT(*) FROM students GROUP BY course;
```

Joins

sql

CopyEdit

```
SELECT s.name, c.course_name
FROM students s
JOIN courses c ON s.course_id = c.id;
```

Join Type Description

INNER JOIN Matches in both tables

LEFT JOIN All left + matched right

RIGHT JOIN All right + matched left

JOIN)

Advanced PostgreSQL Features

1. Views

sql

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CREATE VIEW student_view AS SELECT name, course FROM students;

2. Stored Functions (Procedures)

SELECT * FROM get_students();

sql

CopyEdit

CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION get_students()
RETURNS TABLE(name VARCHAR, age INT) AS \$\$
BEGIN
 RETURN QUERY SELECT name, age FROM students;
END;
\$\$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;

3. Indexes

sql

CopyEdit

CREATE INDEX idx_name ON students(name);

4. JSON Support

sql

CopyEdit

CREATE TABLE profiles (

```
id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
 data JSON
);
INSERT INTO profiles (data)
VALUES ('{"name": "Dhanush", "skills": ["Python", "SQL"]}');
5. Array Support
sql
CopyEdit
CREATE TABLE courses (
 id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
 subjects TEXT[]
);
INSERT INTO courses (subjects) VALUES (ARRAY['HTML', 'CSS', 'JS']);
```

Transactions

```
sql
CopyEdit
BEGIN;
UPDATE accounts SET balance = balance - 100 WHERE id = 1;
UPDATE accounts SET balance = balance + 100 WHERE id = 2;
COMMIT;
-- or
ROLLBACK;
```

🔐 User and Role Management

```
sql
CopyEdit
CREATE ROLE dhanush LOGIN PASSWORD 'password';
GRANT CONNECT ON DATABASE college TO dhanush;
GRANT SELECT, INSERT ON students TO dhanush;
```

Backup and Restore

• Backup:

bash
CopyEdit
pg_dump college > college_backup.sql

• Restore:

bash
CopyEdit
psql college < college_backup.sql</pre>

PostgreSQL vs MySQL Summary

| Feature | PostgreSQL | MySQL |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Open-source | Yes | Yes |
| JSON Support | Advanced | Basic |
| SQL Features | Rich/Complex | Simpler |
| Indexing | Powerful | Good |
| Stored Procs | PL/pgSQL | SQL/Procedural |



1. Subqueries

A query inside another query.

```
sql
CopyEdit
-- Find students older than average age
SELECT name FROM students
WHERE age > (SELECT AVG(age) FROM students);
```


2. Common Table Expressions (CTE)

Temporary result set used within a query. Improves readability.

```
sql
CopyEdit
WITH student_cte AS (
    SELECT name, age FROM students WHERE age > 20
)
SELECT * FROM student_cte;
```

3. Window Functions

Allows performing operations across rows related to the current row.



4. FULL OUTER JOIN

Includes all rows when there is a match in either table.

```
sql
CopyEdit
SELECT a.name, b.course_name
FROM students a
FULL OUTER JOIN courses b ON a.course_id = b.id;
```

5. Upsert (INSERT ... ON CONFLICT)

Inserts a record or updates if it already exists.

```
sql
CopyEdit
INSERT INTO students (id, name, age)
VALUES (1, 'Dhanush', 21)
ON CONFLICT (id)
DO UPDATE SET age = EXCLUDED.age;
```



6. CASE Statement

Used for conditional logic inside queries.

```
sql
CopyEdit
SELECT name,
 CASE
    WHEN age >= 21 THEN 'Adult'
    ELSE 'Teen'
  END AS age_group
FROM students;
```

7. Triggers

Auto-execute SQL on insert/update/delete.

```
sql
CopyEdit
CREATE FUNCTION update_log() RETURNS trigger AS $$
BEGIN
    INSERT INTO logs (info) VALUES ('Student Updated');
    RETURN NEW;
END;
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;

CREATE TRIGGER trg_update
AFTER UPDATE ON students
FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE FUNCTION update_log();
```

8. Table Partitioning

Split large tables into smaller parts (partitions).

```
Sql
CopyEdit
CREATE TABLE sales (
  id SERIAL,
  region TEXT,
  amount INT
) PARTITION BY LIST (region);

CREATE TABLE sales_south PARTITION OF sales FOR VALUES IN ('South');
CREATE TABLE sales_north PARTITION OF sales FOR VALUES IN ('North');
```



9. Full Text Search

Used for searching text efficiently.

```
sql
CopyEdit
SELECT * FROM articles
WHERE to_tsvector(content) @@ to_tsquery('PostgreSQL');
```



10. Extensions in PostgreSQL

PostgreSQL supports extensions to add functionality.

```
sql
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-- Enable UUID generation
CREATE EXTENSION IF NOT EXISTS "uuid-ossp";
-- Use it in table
CREATE TABLE users (
  id UUID DEFAULT uuid_generate_v4(),
 name TEXT
);
```

Real-world Project Tables Example

Students Table

```
sql
CopyEdit
CREATE TABLE students (
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
  name VARCHAR(100),
  dob DATE,
  email VARCHAR(100) UNIQUE,
  address TEXT,
  enrolled BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE
);
```



```
sql
CopyEdit
CREATE TABLE courses (
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
 title VARCHAR(100),
  credits INT
);
```

);

Enrollments (Relation Table)

```
sql
CopyEdit
CREATE TABLE enrollments (
  student_id INT REFERENCES students(id),
  course_id INT REFERENCES courses(id),
  enrollment_date DATE DEFAULT CURRENT_DATE,
  PRIMARY KEY (student_id, course_id)
```

PostgreSQL Best Practices

- 1. Use **EXPLAIN** to check query performance.
- 2. Use **indexes** on frequently searched columns.
- 3. Regularly perform **VACUUM** to clean dead tuples.
- 4. Use **connection pooling** for production (e.g., pgBouncer).
- 5. Use **NOT NULL + CHECK** for data integrity.

PostgreSQL Admin Commands

Command

Purpose

\1

List all databases

\dt List all tables

\du List roles

\c dbname Connect to database

\d Table structure

table_name (schema)

 \q Quit from psql