The psql command syntax is:

psql [options] [dbname [username]]

psql command-line options and their meaning are listed in Table 1-1. Use the following command to see the psql complete list of options:

$ Psql - help

Table 1-1 psql command line options

Options	Significance
-A	Responds to all input from the script
-A	Cancel the alignment of the table data output mode; function with the "-P format = unaligned"
-C <query>	Just run a simple query (or internal command) and then exit
-D <database name>	Specify the name of the database to connect to (default is $ PGDATABASE or the current login user name)
-E	Echo query sent to the server
-E	Show that internal commands generate query
-F <file name>	Perform the query in a file, and then exit
-F <string>	Specified column data delimiter (default is "|"); function-P fieldsep = <string>
-H <host>	Specify the database server host (default is of $ PGHOST or local host)
-H	Set the table output mode to HTML; function with the "-P format = html" the same
- Help	Display help and exit
-L	Listed in the database, and then exit
-N	To disable readline; prevent line editing
-O <file name>	The form of the query output is sent to the file name specified file (using the "| pipe" to send the output to a filtering program)
-P <port>	Specify the database server port (default set default values ??for the $ the PGPORT, or compile-time, usually 4321)
-P var [= arg]	Set the print options var arg (\ pset command)
-Q	Running in silent mode (no messages, only query output)
-R <string>	Set the record separator (default is newline); function with the "-P recordsep = <string>
-S	Is set to single-step mode (each query need to confirm)
-S	Set single-line mode (the end of each line is considered the end of the query input, rather than a semi-colon)
-T	Print only; function-P tuples_only
-T <text>	Set the HTML table tag options (width, border, etc.); function with the "-P tableattr = <text>"
-U <username>	Specifies a database user (default is $ PGUSER or the name of the currently logged in user)
-V name = value	Psql variable name value value
- Version	Display version information and then quit, or you can use the "-V"
-W	Mandatory prompted for a password (if a password is required, it will automatically perform)
-X	Open extended form output; function-P expanded
-X	Does not read startup file (~ /. Psqlrc)

psql support internal commands listed in Table 1-2. In many versions of PostgreSQL, these commands more readable long mode (for example, \ list \ l long mode command).

Table 1-1 psql command line options

Command	Significance
\?	List all psql internal command
\ A	Switch between form aligned and non-aligned mode.
\ C [connect] [dbname	- [user]]	Connect to the new database; Use "-" as the name of the database that connects to the default database. User identity to connect to the database
\ C <title>	Set the title of the output table; function \ psets, Title
\ Cd <directory>	Change working directory

\ Copy ...	Perform SQL COPY with data stream to the client machine.
\ Copyright	Show the use and distribution terms of PostgreSQL
\ D <table>	Descriptor table (or view, index, sequence generation)
\ D {t | i | s | v}	Listed in Table / index / sequence generator / view
\ D {p | S | l}	Lists the access permissions / system tables / object
\ Da	Displaying aggregates (aggregates)
\ Db	Listed in the table space
\ Dc	List conversions
\ DC	List casts
\ Dd [Object]	Listed in the table, the type, function or operation Note
\ DD	List domains
\ Df	Lists function (custom function???) Requires authentication
\ Dg	Listed groups
\ Dl	List of large objects; also be written \ lo_list "
\ Dn	List mode
\ Do	List operators
\ DT	List of data types
\ Du	List Users
\ E [file]	Using an external editor to edit the current query buffer or file specified file
\ Echo <text>	Print the text to standard output
\ Encoding <encoding>	Set the client encoding
\ F <separator>	Modify the output field separator
\ G [filename]	The result of the query is sent to the back-end (output the results to a file or pipe)
\ H [command]	SQL commands help; * indicates a detailed description of all commands
\ H	HTML mode
\ I <file name>	Read from the file and execute the query
\ L	List all database
\ Lo_export, \ lo_import, \ Lo_list, \ lo_unlink	Perform large object operations
\ O [filename]	All query results are sent to a file or | pipe
\ P	Display the contents of the current query buffer
\ Pset <Options>	Set the table output options, the options you can set one of the following: format, border, expanded, fieldsep, footer, null recordsep the tuples_only title, tableattr pager
\ Q	Exit psql
\ Qecho <text>	Text written to the query output stream (see \ o command)
\ R	Reset (clear) the query buffer
\ S [filename]	Print history or the history into a file
\ Set <variable> <value>	Set internal variables
\ T	Show only (to switch between the modes)
\ T <mark>	Set HTML table tag; function and "\ pset tableattr"
\ Timing	Command execution time (in the display and switch between the two modes)
\ Z	Lists the access permissions on tables, views, and sequence generator
\ [Command]	Switch to the shell or execute a shell command