– makes sure that values in a column or a group of columns unique across the table.

PostgreSQL UNIQUE Constraint

Sometimes, you want to ensure that values stored in a column or a group of columns are unique across the whole table such as email address and username. PostgreSQL provides you with the `UNIQUE` constraint to make sure that the uniqueness of the data is maintained correctly.

With the `UNIQUE` constraint, every time you insert a new row, PostgreSQL checks if the value is already in the table. If it finds that the new value is already there, it rejects the change and issues an error. The same process is carried out for updating existing data.

When you add a `UNIQUE` constraint to a column or a group of columns, PostgreSQL will create a unique index on the respective column or a group of columns automatically.

PostgreSQL `UNIQUE` constraint example

```
CREATE TABLE person (
 id serial PRIMARY KEY,
 first_name VARCHAR (50),
 last_name VARCHAR (50),
 email VARCHAR (50) UNIQUE
);
```

```
CREATE TABLE person (
 id SERIAL  PRIMARY KEY,
 first_name VARCHAR (50),
 last_name  VARCHAR (50),
 email      VARCHAR (50),
       UNIQUE(email)
);
```