

VACUUM FULL RARELY USE IT

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11:53 AM

- VACUUM FULL locks the table for reads and writes (EXCLUSIVE LOCK) but helps a lot in reclaiming space but VACUUM doesn't.
 - I wouldn't recommend you to do this frequently.
 - Whenever (say once an year) you have some maintenance window where you can take your app down, you could perform this operation to let OS reclaim wasted space thereby helping with better resource utilization and also reducing disk foot print.
 - With some customers we have seen 10-20x reduction in disk footprint.
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- The default database value of `autovacuum_vacuum_scale_factor=0.2` may be appropriate for small tables, but it's too large for a big table. You can configure the paramter per table:

```
ALTER TABLE <tablename>
```

```
SET autovacuum_vacuum_scale_factor = 0.01;
```

Here are sensible autovacuum adjustments. They won't work for all databases of course, but will move you in the right direction.

Variable	PG Default	Suggested
autovacuum max workers	3	5 or 6
maintenance work mem	64MB	system ram * 3/(8*autovacuum max workers)
autovacuum vacuum scale factor	0.2	Smaller for big tables, try 0.01
autovacuum vacuum threshold	50	Could be larger for small tables
autovacuum vacuum cost limit	200	Probably leave it alone
autovacuum vacuum cost delay	20ms	Can turn it down if OK with more vacuum I/O load

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