PostgreSQL on Docker Cheat Sheet

Tags

Supported tags

`10-beta4` , `10`

`10-beta4-alpine` , `10-alpine`

`9.6.5` , `9.6` , `9` , `latest`

`9.6.5-alpine` , `9.6-alpine` , `9-alpine` , `alpine`

`9.5.9` , `9.5`

`9.5.9-alpine` , `9.5-alpine`

`9.4.14` , `9.4`

`9.4.14-alpine` , `9.4-alpine`

`9.3.19` , `9.3`

`9.3.19-alpine` , `9.3-alpine`

`9.2.23` , `9.2`

`9.2.23-alpine` , `9.2-alpine`

Quickstart

```Bash
1  docker run --name some-postgres \
2      -e POSTGRES_PASSWORD=mysecretpassword \
3      -d postgres
```

This image includes `EXPOSE 5432` (the postgres port), so standard container linking will make it automatically available to the linked containers. The default postgres user and database are created in the entrypoint with initdb.

Environment Variables

`POSTGRES_PASSWORD`

This environment variable is recommended for you to use the PostgreSQL image. This environment variable sets the superuser password for PostgreSQL. The default superuser is defined by the `POSTGRES_USER` environment variable. In the above example, it is being set to "mysecretpassword".

Note: The PostgreSQL image sets up `trust` authentication locally so you may notice a password is not required when connecting from `localhost` (inside the same container). However, a password will be required if connecting from a different host/container.

`POSTGRES_USER`

This optional environment variable is used in conjunction with `POSTGRES_PASSWORD` to set a user and its password. This variable will create the specified user with superuser power and a database with the same name. If it is not specified, then the default user of `postgres` will be used.

`PGDATA`

This optional environment variable can be used to define another location - like a subdirectory - for the database files. The default is `/var/lib/postgresql/data`, but if the data volume you're using is a `fs` mountpoint (like with GCE persistent disks), Postgres `initdb` recommends a subdirectory (for example `/var/lib/postgresql/data/pgdata`) be created to contain the data.

`POSTGRES_DB`

This optional environment variable can be used to define a different name for the default database that is created when the image is first started. If it is not specified, then the value of `POSTGRES_USER` will be used.

`POSTGRES_INITDB_ARGS`

This optional environment variable can be used to send arguments to postgres `initdb`. The value is a space separated string of arguments as postgres initdb would expect them. This is useful for adding functionality like data page checksums: `-e POSTGRES_INITDB_ARGS="--data-checksums"`.

`POSTGRES_INITDB_XLOGDIR`

This optional environment variable can be used to define another location for the Postgres transaction log. By

default the transaction log is stored in a subdirectory of the main Postgres data folder (`PGDATA`). Sometimes it can be desireable to store the transaction log in a different directory which may be backed by storage with different performance or reliability characteristics.