

POSTGIS 2.0.0 PGSQL2SHP SHP2PGSQL CHEAT SHEET

shp2pgsql and pgsql2shp are all located in the bin folder of the PostgreSQL install.

pgsql2shp dumps a postgis database table, view or sql query to ESRI shape file format.

USAGE: pgsql2shp [OPTIONS] database [schema.]table pgsql2shp [OPTIONS] database query

shp2pgsql generates an SQL script from ESRI shape and DBF files suitable for loading into a PostGIS enabled database.

USAGE: shp2pgsql [OPTIONS] shapefile [schema.]table

New in 2.0.0 ¹, New in 1.5 ²

General options: (P - pgsql2shp, S - shp2pgsql)

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|--|
| P | -b | Use a binary cursor. |
| S | -s from_srid:to_srid | If -s :to_srid ¹ is not specified then from_srid is assumed and no transformation happens. |
| S | (-d a c p) | These are mutually exclusive options: |
| S | -d | Drops the table, then recreates it and populates it with current shape file data. |
| S | -a | Appends shape file into current table, must be exactly the same table schema. |
| S | -c | Creates a new table and populates it, default if you do not specify any options. |
| S | -p | Prepare mode, only creates the table. |
| P | -f filename | Use this option to specify the name of the file to create |
| P S | -g geometry_column_name | Specify the name of the geometry column to be (S) created (P) exported. |
| P | -h hostname | Specify db server host name defaults to localhost. |
| S | -D | Use postgresql dump format (defaults to sql insert statments). |
| S | -e | Execute each statement individually, do not use a transaction. Not compatible with -D |
| P S | -k | Keep postgresql identifiers case. |
| S | -i | Use int4 type for all integer dbf fields. |
| S | -I | Create a GiST index on the geometry column. |
| S | -p port | Allows you to specify a database port other than the default. Defaults to 5432. |
| P | -P password | Connect to the database with the specified password. |
| P | -r | Raw mode. Do not unescape attribute names and not skip the 'gid' attribute. |
| P | -S | Generate simple geometries instead of MULTI geometries. |
| S | -u user | Connect to the database as the specified user. |
| P | -w | Use wkt format (for postgis-0.x support - drops M - drifts coordinates). |
| S | -W | encoding The character encoding of Shape's attribute column. (default : "UTF-8") |
| S | -N | |
| S | -n | policy Specify NULL geometries handling policy (insert,skip,abort) |
| S | -G ² | Only import DBF file. |
| S | -T ¹ | Use geography type instead of geometry (requires lon/lat data) in WGS84 long lat (-s SRID=4326) |
| S | -X ¹ | Specify the tablespace for the new table. Indexes will still use the default tablespace unless the -X parame |
| S | -x ¹ | Specify the tablespace for the new index. |
| P | -m ¹ filename | Remap identifiers to ten character names. The content of the file is lines of two symbols separated by a sin |
| P S | -? | Display this help screen |

PSQL Connection options:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| -h, --host=HOSTNAME | database server host or socket directory |
| -p, --port=PORT | database server port number |
| -U, --username=NAME | connect as specified database user |
| -W, --password | force password prompt (should happen automatically) |
| -e, --exit-on-error | exit on error, default is to continue |

If no input file name is supplied, then standard input is used.

LOADING DATA WITH SHP2PGSQL

```
Load data into PostgreSQL from ESRI shape file MA stateplane feet
shp2pgsql -s 2249 neighborhoods public.neighborhoods > neighborhoods.sql
psql -h myserver -d mydb -U myuser -f neighborhoods.sql
```

```
Do above in one step
shp2pgsql -s 4326 neighborhoods public.neighborhoods | psql -h myserver -d mydb -U myuser
```

```
Load data into PostgreSQL from ESRI shape file MA stateplane feet to geography
shp2pgsql -G -s 2249:4326 neighborhoods public.neighborhoods > neighborhoods_geog.sql
psql -h myserver -d mydb -U myuser -f neighborhoods_geog.sql
```

```
Sample linux sh script to load tiger 2007 massachusetts edges and landmark points
TMPDIR="/gis_data/staging"
STATEDIR="/gis_data/25_MASSACHUSETTS"
STATESCHEMA="ma"
DB="tiger"
USER_NAME="tigeruser"
cd $STATEDIR
#unzip files into temp directory
for z in */*.zip; do unzip -o -d $TMPDIR $z; done
for z in *.zip; do unzip -o -d $TMPDIR $z; done

#prepare the tables don't load data
#force non-multi and set the geometry column name to the_geom_4269, dbf is in latin1 encoding
shp2pgsql -s 4269 -g the_geom_4269 -S -W "latin1" -p fe_2007_25025_edges.shp ${STATESCHEMA}.edges | psql -U $USER_NAME -d $DB
shp2pgsql -s 4269 -g the_geom_4269 -S -W "latin1" -p fe_2007_25025_pointlm.shp ${STATESCHEMA}.pointlm | psql -U $USER_NAME -d $DB

#loop thru pointlm and edges county tables and append to respective ma.pointlm ma.edges tables
for t in pointlm edges;
do
  for z in *${t}.dbf;
  do
    shp2pgsql -s 4269 -g the_geom_4269 -S -W "latin1" -a $z ${STATE_SCHEMA}.${t} | psql -d $DB -U $USER_NAME;
  done
done
done
```

OUTPUTING TO ESRI SHAPEFILE/DBF WITH PGSQL2SHP

```
Export query to a shape file called jpnei.shp/dbf
pgsql2shp -f "/path/to/jpnei" -h myserver -u apguser -P apgpassword mygisdb
"SELECT neigh_name, the_geom FROM neighborhoods WHERE neigh_name = 'Jamaica Plain'"
```

```
Export a table in ma schema called streets to streets.shp/dbf
pgsql2shp -f "/path/to/streets" -h myserver -u apguser -P apgpassword mygisdb ma.streets
```

[Boston GIS](#) [Paragon Corporation](#) [Postgres OnLine Journal](#) [PostGIS in Action](#)