Sequential Scan



- Reads the whole table row by row.
- Applies filters while reading, but can't skip rows.
- Best for small tables or when most rows are needed.

Index Scan



- Uses an index to find relevant rows.
- Fetches table rows to check visibility and get missing columns.
- Fast when the query is selective.

Index-Only Scan



- Reads directly from the index, no table access needed.
- Very fast, but only works if all required columns are in the index.

Bitmap Heap Scan



- Uses a bitmap from one or more indexes to fetch rows efficiently.
- Handles multiple conditions well.
- May fetch full pages if memory is limited, then re-check conditions.