POSTGRESQL 8.3 PSQL CHEAT SHEET

psql is located in the bin folder of the PostgreSQL install and PgAdmin III install.

This is psql 8.3.5, the PostgreSQL interactive terminal.

Usage: psql [OPTIONS]... [DBNAME [USERNAME]]

General options:

```
 -c COMMAND                 run only single command (SQL or internal) and exit
 -d, --dbname=NAME          specify database name to connect to (default: "logged in username here")
 -f, --file=FILENAME        execute commands from file, then exit
 --help                     show this help, then exit
 -l, --list                 list available databases, then exit
 -v NAME=VALUE              set psql variable NAME to VALUE
 --version                  output version information, then exit
 -X                         do not read startup file (~/.psqlrc)
```

Interactive Console:

```
TYPE:  \copyright                                    for distribution terms
       \h for help with SQL commands                 for help with SQL commands
       \? for help with psql commands                for help with psql commands
       \g or terminate with semicolon to execute query   or terminate with semicolon to execute query
       \q to quit                                    to quit
GENERAL:
  \c[onnect] [DBNAME|- USER|- HOST|- PORT|-]          connect to new database
  \cd [DIR]                                           change the current working directory
  \encoding [ENCODING]                                show or set client encoding
  \h [NAME]                                           help on syntax of SQL commands, * for all commands
  \set [NAME [VALUE]]                                 set internal variable, or list all if no parameters
  \timing                                             toggle timing of commands (currently off)
  \unset NAME                                         unset (delete) internal variable
  \prompt [TEXT] NAME                                 prompt user to set internal variable
  \! [COMMAND]                                        execute command in shell or start interactive shell

QUERY BUFFER:
  \e [FILE]                                           edit the query buffer (or file) with external editor
  \g [FILE]                                           send query buffer to server (and results to file or |pipe)
  \p                                                  show the contents of the query buffer
  \r                                                  reset (clear) the query buffer
  \w FILE                                             write query buffer to file

INPUT/OUTPUT:
  \echo [STRING]                                      write string to standard output
  \i FILE                                             execute commands from file
  \o [FILE]                                           send all query results to file or |pipe
  \qecho [STRING]                                     write string to query output stream (see \o)

INFORMATIONAL:
  \d [NAME]                                           describe table, index, sequence, or view
  \d{t|i|s|v|S} [PATTERN] (add "+" for more detail)   list tables/indexes/sequences/views/system tables
  \da [PATTERN]                                       list aggregate functions
  \db [PATTERN]                                       list tablespaces (add "+" for more detail)
  \dc [PATTERN]                                       list conversions
  \dC                                                 list casts
  \dd [PATTERN]                                       show comment for object
  \dD [PATTERN]                                       list domains
  \df [PATTERN]                                       list functions (add "+" for more detail)
  \dF [PATTERN]                                       list text search configurations (add "+" for more detail)
  \dFd [PATTERN]                                      list text search dictionaries (add "+" for more detail)
  \dFt [PATTERN]                                      list text search templates
  \dFp [PATTERN]                                      list text search parsers (add "+" for more detail)
  \dg [PATTERN]                                       list groups
  \dn [PATTERN]                                       list schemas (add "+" for more detail)
  \do [NAME]                                          list operators
  \dl                                                 list large objects, same as \lo_list
  \dp [PATTERN]                                       list table, view, and sequence access privileges
  \dT [PATTERN]                                       list data types (add "+" for more detail)
  \du [PATTERN]                                       list users
  \l                                                  list all databases (add "+" for more detail)
  \z [PATTERN]                                        list table, view, and sequence access privileges (same as \dp)

FORMATTING
  \a                                                  toggle between unaligned and aligned output mode
  \C [STRING]                                         set table title, or unset if none
  \f [STRING]                                         show or set field separator for unaligned query output
  \H                                                  toggle HTML output mode (currently off)
  \pset NAME [VALUE]                                  set table output option
                                                        (NAME := {format|border|expanded|fieldsep|footer|null|numericlocale|recordsep
                                                        |tuples_only|title|tableattr|pager})
  \t                                                  show only rows (currently off)
  \T [STRING]                                         set HTML <table> tag attributes, or unset if none
  \x                                                  toggle expanded output (currently off)

COPY, LARGE OBJECT
  \copy ...                                           perform SQL COPY with data stream to the client host
  \lo_export LOBOID FILE                              LOBOID FILE
  \lo_import FILE [COMMENT]                           FILE [COMMENT]
  \lo_list
  \lo_unlink LOBOID                                   large object operations
```

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
 -d DBNAME                 some database
```

psql automated shell examples

restore whole server
```
psql --host=localhost --username=someuser -f /path/to/pgdumpall.sql
```
Run an sql batch script against a database
```
psql -h localhost -U someuser -d somedb -f /path/to/somefile.sql
```
Run an sql batch script against a database and send output to file
```
psql -h localhost -U someuser -d somedb -f /path/to/scriptfile.sql  -o /path/to/outputfile.txt
```
Run a single statement against a db
```
psql -U postgres -d pagila -c "CREATE TABLE test(some_id serial PRIMARY KEY, some_text text);"
```
Output data in html format
```
psql -h someserver -p 5432 -U someuser -d somedb -H -c "SELECT * FROM sometable" -o mydata.html
```

psql Interactive mode

Launch Interactive session
```
psql -h localhost -U postgres -d somedb
```
View help for SELECT * LIMIT
```
\h  SELECT * LIMIT
```
List all tables in db with descriptions
```
\dt+
```
List all tables in db with **s** in the name
```
\dt *s*
```
Cancel out of MORE screen
```
:q
```