

**psql [OPT]..., [DB [UNAME]]**

-d database name to connect to  
 -l list available databases, then exit  
 -f execute commands from file,  
 -v set psql variable NAME=VALUE (e.g., -v ON\_ERROR\_STOP=1)  
 -q run quietly (no messages, only query output)  
 -F field separator for unaligned output (default "|")  
 -t print rows tuples only  
 -h database server host  
 -p database server port (default: "5432")  
 -U database user name

**psql Meta-commands**

\cd change current working dir  
 \! pwd print current working dir  
 \conninfo current database connection.

| \copy \copy table { from | to } filename  
 | [ with ] [ delimiter [ as ] 'character']  
 | [ null [ as ] 'string' ] ...  
 | \g file Sends the current query input to  
 | \g |cmd the server, and optionally stores  
 | it in file, or pipes it to cmd  
 | \i file reads input from file and exec it  
 | \l lists all databases  
 | \o file sends further query output to  
 | \o |cmd file or pipes it to cmd  
 | \p print current query buffer  
 | \password [ user]  
 | changes pw of user (def: current)  
 | \pset option [ value ]  
 | ex: \pset null '(null)'  
 | \q quits psql  
 | \r Resets (clears) the query buffer  
 | \s file Print psql's history to file  
 | \set [ name [ value [ ... ] ] ]  
 | \set alone prints all values set  
 | \t toggles column headings

**Miscellaneous commands**

| pg\_dump dump database to file  
 | pg\_dump --compress=9 --user=...  
 | ... dbname > file.gz  
 | pg\_ctl create cluster, stop, check  
 | pg\_ctl initdb -D /data/...  
 | pg\_ctl start / stop / status  
 | createdb create an empty database  
 | createdb -U... -T template0 name  
 | reload db gzip -dc file.gz | psql -U... dbname  
 | pg\_dumpall dump all databases  
 | pg\_dumpall > file.dmp  
 | psql -dpostgres -f file.dmp

**Important SQL commands**

| drop drop database dbname  
 | drop table tablename  
 | drop index indexname  
 | truncate truncate table tablename