

PostgreSQL®

Notes for Professionals

Chapter 4: Table Creation

Section 4.1: Show table definition

Open the psql command line tool connected to the database where your table is. Then type the command:

```
ld <tablename>
```

To get extended information type

```
ld+ <tablename>
```

If you have forgotten the name of the table, just type ld into psql to obtain a list of tables in the database.

Section 4.2: Create table from select

Let's say you have a table called person:

```
CREATE TABLE person (  
  person_id SERIAL NOT NULL,  
  last_name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,  
  first_name VARCHAR(255),  
  age INT NOT NULL,  
  PRIMARY KEY (person_id)  
);
```

You can create a new table of people over 30 like this:

Section 4.3: Create unlogged table

You can create unlogged tables so that you can make the tables considerably faster to write-ahead log which means it's not crash-safe and unable to replicate.

```
CREATE UNLOGGED TABLE person (  
  person_id SERIAL NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,  
  last_name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,  
  first_name VARCHAR(255),  
  address VARCHAR(255),  
  city VARCHAR(150)  
);
```

Section 4.4: Table creation with Primary Key

```
CREATE TABLE person (  
  person_id SERIAL NOT NULL,  
  last_name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,  
  first_name VARCHAR(255),  
  address VARCHAR(255),  
  city VARCHAR(150),  
  PRIMARY KEY (person_id)  
);
```

Chapter 12: Common Table Expressions (WITH)

Section 12.1: Common Table Expressions in SELECT Queries

Common table expressions support extracting portions of larger queries. For example:

```
WITH sales AS (  
  SELECT  
    orders.ordered_at,  
    sales.total,  
    users.name  
  FROM sales  
  JOIN users USING (user_id)  
)  
SELECT  
  sales.ordered_at,  
  sales.total,  
  users.name  
FROM sales  
JOIN users USING (user_id)
```

Section 12.2: Traversing tree using WITH RECURSIVE

```
CREATE TABLE emp1 (  
  name TEXT PRIMARY KEY,  
  boss TEXT NULL,  
  REFERENCES emp1  
  ON UPDATE CASCADE  
  ON DELETE CASCADE  
  DEFAULT NULL  
);  
  
INSERT INTO emp1 VALUES ('Paul', NULL);  
INSERT INTO emp1 VALUES ('Luke', 'Paul');  
INSERT INTO emp1 VALUES ('Marge', 'Luke');  
INSERT INTO emp1 VALUES ('Beth', 'Marge');  
INSERT INTO emp1 VALUES ('Paul', 'Kate');  
INSERT INTO emp1 VALUES ('Carol', 'Luke');  
INSERT INTO emp1 VALUES ('John', 'Luke');  
INSERT INTO emp1 VALUES ('Jack', 'Carol');  
INSERT INTO emp1 VALUES ('Alice', 'Carol');  
  
WITH RECURSIVE t (level, path, boss, name) AS (  
  SELECT 0, name, boss, name FROM emp1 WHERE boss IS NULL  
  UNION  
  SELECT  
    level + 1,  
    path || ' > ' || emp1.name,  
    emp1.boss,  
    emp1.name  
  FROM  
    emp1 JOIN t  
    ON emp1.boss = t.name  
  ) SELECT * FROM t ORDER BY path;
```

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Chapter 15: Programming with PL/pgSQL

Section 15.1: Basic PL/pgSQL Function

A simple PL/pgSQL function:

```
CREATE FUNCTION active_subscribers() RETURNS TEXT AS $$  
DECLARE  
  -- variable for the following BEGIN ... END block  
  subscribers INTEGER;  
BEGIN  
  -- SELECT must always be used with INTO  
  SELECT COUNT(user_id) INTO subscribers FROM users WHERE subscribed;  
  RETURN subscribers;  
EXCEPTION  
  -- return NULL if table "users" does not exist  
  WHEN undefined_table THEN RETURN NULL;  
END;  
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

This could have been achieved with just the SQL statement, but demonstrates the basic structure of a function. To execute the function do:

```
SELECT active_subscribers();
```

Section 15.2: custom exceptions

creating custom exception 'Y2222':

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION s164() RETURNS VOID AS  
$$  
BEGIN  
  raise exception using message = 'Y 164', detail = 'Y 164', hint = 'Y 164', errcode = 'Y2222';  
END;  
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

creating custom exception not assigning error:

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION s165() RETURNS VOID AS  
$$  
BEGIN  
  raise exception 'Y', 'raising exception';  
END;  
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

raising:

```
Y= DO  
SS  
DECLARE  
S TEXT;  
BEGIN
```

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