

Postgresql settings/config quick reference Cheat Sheet by armk via cheatography.com/215747/cs/47043/

The config file(s)

Main config file is postgresql.conf in instance directory (or specified explicitly as startup argument).

Settings changes (incl. ALTER SYSTEM) are often not applied immediately: see the context property for how/when setting changes are applied. Official doc: 19.1. Setting Parameters / 52.24. pg_settings

| Connection/network | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| listen_addresses | interfaces to listen on (ipv4 and v6) |
| port | TCP port |
| max_connections | Max simultaneous sessions |
| ssl | Enable encrypted transport |

| WAL/checkpoints (cont) | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| checkpoint_timeout | Max delay between checkpoints |
| checkpoint_completion- _target | Spread checkpoint over n times checkpoint_timeout |
| min/max_wal_size | Soft limits (targets) for WAL size |
| | |

| Logging | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| log_destination | Log format |
| log_filename | Log filename pattern |
| log_min_messages | Minimum event severity to be logged |
| log_min_duration_stat- ement | Log all statements with exec time > value |
| log_checkpoint | Log checkpoints |
| log_line_prefix | Prefix for all log lines |
| log_lock_waits | Log lock waits longer than value |
| log_statement | Log SQL statements (DML only, DDL only,) |
| log_temp_files | Log temp files larger than value |

| Replication | |
|----------------------------|--|
| archive_mode | Enable WAL archiving |
| archive_co- mmand | Command used to archive WAL files |
| max_wal_se- nders | Max concurrent replication threads |
| wal_keep_size | Size of preserved WAL segments on the primary |
| max_replicat- ion_slots | Number of replication slots (max concurrent standby connections) |
| hot_standby | When in standby (in recovery), accept connections |
| hot_standby feedback | When in standby, give status feedback to primary |

See 19.8. Error Reporting and Logging for filename format and templates

See 19.5.1. Write Ahead Log settings, 25.3.1. Setting Up WAL Archiving and 19.6. Replication

| WAL/checkpoints | |
|-----------------------|---|
| wal_level | Transaction log level: minimal (no log), replica, logical |
| fsync | Force flushing OS disk cache to physical storage |
| wal_sync_m- ethod | Method used for forcing WAL updates out to disk when fsync is on |
| synchronous commit | Wait for writes to be committed to disk before sending commit to client |
| full_page writes | Do not write partial pages to WAL |
| wal_buffers | Size of WAL buffers in RAM |

| Resources | |
|--------------------------|---|
| shared_buffers | Instance-wide shared memory (see oracle sga) |
| temp_buffers | Dedicated memory per session (see oracle pga) |
| work_mem | Dedicated memory per query |
| maintenance work_mem | Memory reserved for maintenance ops (vacuum, index creation, etc) |
| autovacuum_w- ork_mem | Memory dedicated to autovacuum processes |



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| Autovacuum controls | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| autovacuum | Enable/disable autovacuum |
| autovacuum_max_wo-rkers | Max parallel autovac jobs |
| autovacuum_naptime | Max delay before autovac |
| autovacuum_vacuum_c- ost_limit | Accumulated I/O cost of autovac before pausing |
| autovacuum_vacuum_c- ost_delay | Duration of autovacuum pause (see previous) |
| autovacuum_vacuum_thr- eshold | Insert/update threshold to trigger autovac (absolute) |
| autovacuum_vacuum_s- cale_factor | Insert/update threshold to trigger autovac (relative) |

See 19.10. Automatic Vacuuming

Autovacuum keeps count of I/O (as "cost"). Once cost has reached autovacuum_vacuum_cost_limit, it pauses for autovacuum_vacuum_cost_delay.

Vacuum threshold is the sum of vacuum_threshold and vacuum_scale_factor.

Autovacuum trigger thresholds have separate, identical parameters for inserts.

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| Planner/optimizer | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| seq_pa- ge_cost | Sequential page read cost |
| random- _pag- e_cost | Random page read cost |
| cpu_op- erator- _cost | Operator call cost |
| effective- _cache- _size | Estimated system cache size |
| default statistics- _target | "Target quality" of the optimizer: higher values takes longer to calculate plan but yields better results |
| from_coll- aps- e_limit | Merge nested FROM (to avoid "reorder experimentation" from the planner) if sub-FROM would yield less than this setting |
| join_coll- aps- e_limit | See from_collapse_limit but with JOINs instead of FROMs |



See 19.7. Query Planning