

# INSTALL POSTGRESQL & POSTGIS for QGIS

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URL: [http://dbr.nu/qgis/docs/postgis\\_install\\_on\\_snow\\_leopard.pdf](http://dbr.nu/qgis/docs/postgis_install_on_snow_leopard.pdf)

CASE STUDY: MAC OS X (Snow Leopard) on 64bit Intel Duo Core MacBook  
ASSUMPTION: QGIS, GDAL, Freetype, Cairo, GSL and GRASS are already installed  
REQUIREMENTS: ROOT PASSWORD, KNOWLEDGE OF TERMINAL AND VI EDITOR

RELATED DOC: INSTALL QGIS ON SNOW LEAPORD

RELATED DOC URL: [http://dbr.nu/qgis/docs/qgis\\_install\\_on\\_snow\\_leopard.pdf](http://dbr.nu/qgis/docs/qgis_install_on_snow_leopard.pdf)

## CONVENTIONS:

\$ at beginning of line = Terminal Command executed as regular logged in user  
# at beginning of line = means Terminal Command executed as superuser [root]  
[ ] square brackets indicate term to be supplied by you (like "[username]" change to "faust")  
-> indicates the response expected from the Terminal Command, multiple lines  
// at beginning of line = means comments, not commands

Before installing please consider these descriptions to get an idea of the install process:

<http://linfiniti.com/2011/05/running-posgresql-8-4-and-9-0-side-by-side-on-ubuntu/>

<http://www.enterprisedb.com/resources-community/pginst-guide>

## Overview:

- 1) Prepare System for Install
- 2) Install PostgreSQL
- 3) Set PATH for PostgreSQL executables
- 4) Create test database
- 4) Install PostGIS
- 5) Create PostGIS instance for PostgreSQL test database
- 6) Install QGIS SPIT [Shapefile to PostGIS Import Tool] Plugin
- 7) Setup PostGIS connection and test Import and PostGIS Layer Access

## Section 1 - Prepare System for Install

```
// Mac OS X ships with shared memory settings which are too low for running
// PostgreSQL by default. The following instructions were adapted from:
// http://crafted-software.blogspot.com/2010/11/shared-memory-settings-for-postgres-on.html
// open up Terminal and view your system default for shared memory
$ sysctl kern.sysv
-> kern.sysv.shmmax: 4194304
-> kern.sysv.shmmin: 1
-> kern.sysv.shmmni: 32
-> kern.sysv.shmseg: 8
-> kern.sysv.shmall: 1024
-> kern.sysv.semni: 87381
-> kern.sysv.semmns: 87381
-> kern.sysv.semmnu: 87381
-> kern.sysv.semmsl: 87381
-> kern.sysv.semume: 10

// you need to boost the .shmmax & .shmall by factors explained at the URL above
// the number used must be a correct multiple, see URL above for other settings
```

```
// for quick install, you can use the (minimal) changes that worked for me, below
// you need to either edit or create a file at /etc/sysctl.conf (as superuser)
$ su -
-> Password: [rootPassword]
-> root#
cd /etc
vi sysctl.conf
// enter the following text (which boosts your system memory defaults by factor of 8)
kern.sysv.shmmax: 33554432
kern.sysv.shmmin: 1
kern.sysv.shmmni: 32
kern.sysv.shmseg: 8
kern.sysv.shmall: 8192

//save the edited sysctl.conf file
// check the file permissions of the newly created file
# ls -al
-> -rw-r--r-- 1 root wheel 111 Nov 12 17:19 /etc/sysctl.conf

// you may have to chown and chmod the file to get these correct... though I didn't need to
// your system should now be ready to run PostgreSQL for small database instances
```

## Section 2 - Downloading the packages for the Install

```
// you may send thanks, flowers, chocolate, money, etc to William Kyngesburye for
// creating all these amazing packages for Mac OS X ! thanks Kyngchaos!
```

URL for .dmg packages from: <http://www.kyngchaos.com/software/postgres>

```
PostgreSQL 9.1.1-1
PostGIS 1.5.3-2 for Postgres 9.1
```

```
1) install the postgresql 9.1.1 .dmg
// if you check for which version is installed you probably won't find it: PATHs are not set
$ pg_config --version
-> -sh: pg_config: command not found
```

```
$cd /usr/local/bin
$ls -al p*
$lrwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 9 Nov 12 17:38 pgsqll -> pgsqll-9.1
```

```
// postgres is there in /pgsqll-9.1 and is symlinked from pgsqll
// now you want to create a link for /usr/local to see the pg_config executable
```

```
$cd /usr/local
#sudo ln -s /usr/local/pgsqll/bin/pg_config
# ls -al pg*
-> lrwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 30 Nov 12 18:25 pg_config -> /usr/local/pgsqll/bin/pg_config
```

```
// now you should get the response from pg_config
# pg_config --version
-> PostgreSQL 9.1.1
// ** woot!
```

```
// now we can move on to creating a user – but not quite...
```

```

# createuser -superuser [yourUsername] -U postgres
-> -sh: createuser: command not found

# echo $PATH
-> /usr/bin:/bin:/usr/sbin:/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/X11/bin

// okay basic PATH to pgsq is still missing, we can create a global path in /etc/paths.d

#cd /etc/paths.d
# vi psql
/usr/local/pgsql/bin

// now there should be at least the X11 and the psql path files in the /etc/paths.d/
# ls -l
-rw-r--r-- 1 root wheel 13 Jul 11 2009 X11
-rw-r--r-- 1 root wheel 21 Nov 12 19:00 psql
# more psql
/usr/local/pgsql/bin

close existing terminal, then fire up new terminal
$ which psql
/usr/local/pgsql/bin/psql
userName$ psql
psql: FATAL: role "userName" does not exist
$ su -
-> Password: [rootPassword]
root# psql
psql: FATAL: role "root" does not exist

// so psql is in the PATH but not running yet because we have not created the psql user
// try "createuser --help" for more information.
// note double - hyphen before parameter! Single hyphen - won't work
// create a user with your Mac login / username as the postgres "yourUsername"
// note, this worked for my username combined with the root password in later steps

#createuser --superuser [yourUsername] -U postgres

//exit from superuser to see if your username now has rights to create a database
#exit
$createdb [testDBName]
$ psql -h localhost -U [yourUsername] -d [testDBName]
psql (9.1.1)
Type "help" for help.

testDBName=# \du
                List of roles
Role name | Attributes | Member of
-----+-----+-----
yourUsername | Superuser, Create role, Create DB, Replication | {}
postgres | Superuser, Create role, Create DB, Replication | {}

// looks like we are running, woot!
// now you are logged into psql, you can run commands
// an old cheatsheet that mostly still works: http://bit.ly/k0ecVN

testDBName=# \

```

### List of databases

Name	Owner	Encoding	Collate	Ctype	Access privileges
postgres	postgres	UTF8	en_US	en_US	
template0	postgres	UTF8	en_US	en_US	=c/postgres +
template1	postgres	UTF8	en_US	en_US	=c/postgres +
testDBname	yourUsername	UTF8	en_US	en_US	

(4 rows)

## Section 3 - Installing postGIS

Instructions: <http://users.qgis.org/planet/user/2/tag/postgres%20%26%20postgis/>  
KyngChaos README: [http://www.dbr.nu/qgis/docs/KyngChaos\\_PostGIS\\_1-5-3\\_ReadMe.pdf](http://www.dbr.nu/qgis/docs/KyngChaos_PostGIS_1-5-3_ReadMe.pdf)

install PostGIS .dmg

// make sure PostGIS is now installed in the PostgreSQL contrib folder

```
#cd /usr/local/pgsql/share/contrib
# ls
postgis-1.5
```

// looks okay, now run:

```
# /usr/local/pgsql/bin/psql -U postgres -d testDBname -f
# /usr/local/pgsql/share/contrib/postgis-1.5/postgis.sql
SET
BEGIN
CREATE FUNCTION
CREATE FUNCTION
CREATE FUNCTION
CREATE FUNCTION
CREATE TYPE
...
...
DROP FUNCTION
DROP FUNCTION
DROP FUNCTION
```

// if you get long return of postgis.sql to screen, like above, it's good. then run:

```
# /usr/local/pgsql/bin/psql -U postgres -d testDBname -f
# /usr/local/pgsql/share/contrib/postgis-1.5/spatial_ref_sys.sql
BEGIN
INSERT 0 1
INSERT 0 1
INSERT 0 1
...
...
INSERT 0 1
INSERT 0 1
INSERT 0 1
```

```
COMMIT
ANALYZE
```

```
// you should get the long list of spatial ref insertions, like above.
// now check your database just to make sure its listening on the default port
```

```
$ psql -p 5432 -l
```

```
                List of databases
  Name      | Owner   | Encoding | Collate | Ctype | Access privileges
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
 postgres   | postgres | UTF8     | en_US  | en_US |
 template0  | postgres | UTF8     | en_US  | en_US | =c/postgres      +
            |         |         |         |         | postgres=Ctc/postgres
 template1  | postgres | UTF8     | en_US  | en_US | =c/postgres      +
            |         |         |         |         | postgres=Ctc/postgres
 testDBname | mberman | UTF8     | en_US  | en_US |
(4 rows)
```

```
// it's not clear to me if the following are necessary or not
```

```
$ /usr/local/pgsql/bin/createlang -U postgres plpgsql testDBname
-> createlang: language "plpgsql" is already installed in database "testDBname"
$ psql -U postgres -f /usr/local/pgsql/share/lwpostgis.sql template_postgis
```

#### Section 4 - Testing the database connection from QGIS

```
// now it is time to test the postgresSQL and PostGIS setup in QGIS
```

launch QGIS

under QGIS Plugin Manager, install "SPIT" (Shapefile to PostGIS Import Tool)  
after installing the plugin, launch it (from the BlueElephant button now on the menu)  
create a server connection by clicking the NEW button  
choose a global schema for connection "public"

- Name (create a name for your server connection)
- Service (leave blank for now)
- Host (= localhost)
- Port (= 5432)
- Database (=testDBname)
- SSL mode (=disable)
- Username (yourUsername)
- Password (your password)

click TEST CONNECT

if the test connection was successful hit OKAY, then CONNECT  
after entering your password [possibly the root password] you should be connected

- Now you can use the SPIT tool to upload a Shapefile to the PostGIS
- click the ADD button
- browse to a shapefile (note, default is UTF8 encoding), then click OPEN
- the uploaded file will appear on the Filename list
- hit OKAY to leave the SPIT tool

now you can try adding the PostGIS Layer from the Main QGIS menu

- click on the Add PostGIS layer button (the Blue Database icon)
- after clicking on Add PostGIS layer, CONNECT to the new local postGIS server
- the table list should include the layer just imported to postGIS
- click on the layer you want to add, then the ADD button
- the dialog will close and the layer should now appear in the QGIS map view
- open the attribute table to make sure all is well

// note, this worked for UTF8 character set, as well as other encodings, as long as I properly selected the encoding during in SPIT tool upload setting

// woot! You've got QGIS and PostGIS.