

POSTGRESQL - AUTO INCREMENT

http://www.tutorialspoint.com/postgresql/postgresql_using_autoincrement.htm

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PostgreSQL has the data types *smallserial*, *serial* and *bigserial*; these are not true types, but merely a notational convenience for creating unique identifier columns. These are similar to AUTO_INCREMENT property supported by some other databases.

If you wish a *serial* column to have a unique constraint or be a primary key, it must now be specified, just like any other data type.

The type name *serial* create *integer* columns. The type name *bigserial* create a *bigint* column. *bigserial* should be used if you anticipate the use of more than 231 identifiers over the lifetime of the table. The type name *smallserial* create a *smallint* column.

Syntax:

The basic usage of **SERIAL** datatype is as follows:

```
CREATE TABLE tablename (  
  colname SERIAL  
);
```

Example:

Consider COMPANY table to be created as follows:

```
testdb=# CREATE TABLE COMPANY(  
  ID SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
  NAME TEXT NOT NULL,  
  AGE INT NOT NULL,  
  ADDRESS CHAR(50),  
  SALARY REAL  
);
```

Now, insert following records into table COMPANY:

```
INSERT INTO COMPANY (NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY)  
VALUES ( 'Paul', 32, 'California', 20000.00 );  
  
INSERT INTO COMPANY (NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY)  
VALUES ( 'Allen', 25, 'Texas', 15000.00 );  
  
INSERT INTO COMPANY (NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY)  
VALUES ( 'Teddy', 23, 'Norway', 20000.00 );  
  
INSERT INTO COMPANY (NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY)  
VALUES ( 'Mark', 25, 'Rich-Mond ', 65000.00 );  
  
INSERT INTO COMPANY (NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY)  
VALUES ( 'David', 27, 'Texas', 85000.00 );  
  
INSERT INTO COMPANY (NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY)  
VALUES ( 'Kim', 22, 'South-Hall', 45000.00 );  
  
INSERT INTO COMPANY (NAME, AGE, ADDRESS, SALARY)  
VALUES ( 'James', 24, 'Houston', 10000.00 );
```

This will insert 7 tuples into the table COMPANY and COMPANY will have the following records:

id	name	age	address	salary
1	Paul	32	California	20000

2	Allen	25	Texas	15000
3	Teddy	23	Norway	20000
4	Mark	25	Rich-Mond	65000
5	David	27	Texas	85000
6	Kim	22	South-Hall	45000
7	James	24	Houston	10000