

## Re: Moving a PostgreSQL database from one server to another

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Fedora/2005-01/3217.html>

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**From:** Tony Dietrich ([td\\_at\\_transoft.demon.co.uk](mailto:td_at_transoft.demon.co.uk))

**Date:** 01/13/05

To: For users of Fedora Core releases <[fedora-list@redhat.com](mailto:fedora-list@redhat.com)>

Date: Thu, 13 Jan 2005 22:37:07 +0000

On Thursday 13 Jan 2005 22:15, Rodolfo J. Paiz wrote:

> *On Thu, 2005-01-13 at 13:23 -0500, Scot L. Harris wrote:*

> > *I think what you are looking for is the*

> >

> > *pg\_dump*

> >

> > *or*

> >

> > *pg\_dumpall*

> >

> > *commands.*

>

> *Fantastic. After some more thrashing around, it seems those are commands*

> *to be typed in at the BASH shell, not inside psql... that had me fooled*

> *for a little while. But I eventually managed to find "pg\_dump",*

> *"pg\_dumpall" and "pg\_restore". Great, says I.*

>

> *Nope. I've been through the pg\_dump man page backwards and forwards and*

> *have tried lots of iterations of the command. While the PostgreSQL*

> *service is started, and I can access the database properly with psql,*

> *pg\_dump runs for less than one second and then exits. No error is given,*

> *no output results, nothing.*

>

> *This is FC3, everything is updated, and I've tried setting every useful*

> *parameter I can think of, even setting host, user, and -W to force a*

> *password prompt. Nada, zilch, zippo. No logs anywhere I can find,*

> *either. /var/log/pgsql is entirely empty.*

You missed a step the original reply stated.

TURN OFF the PSQL server before dumping.

A running server hooks into the db and blocks the dump.

If you can't shutdown the server to do the dump on a production machine, you are limited to SQL to backup the data, assuming the remote server is available through the network. Look up how to use PSQL as a SRDBM.

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>  
> *Since surely I'm not the first one to want a database backed up or*  
> *transferred to another server, anyone who got this working have any*  
> *suggestions?*  
>  
> *Thanks,*  
>  
> --  
> *Rodolfo J. Paiz <rpaiz@simpaticus.com>*

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Tony Dietrich  
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All art is but imitation of nature.  
-- Lucius Annaeus Seneca  
--  
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