

[Cloud SQL](https://cloud.google.com/sql/) (<https://cloud.google.com/sql/>)

[Documentation](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/) (<https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/>)

[MySQL](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/mysql/) (<https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/mysql/>) [Reference](#)

# Using the Cloud SDK

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**MySQL** | [PostgreSQL](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/cloud-sdk) (<https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/postgres/cloud-sdk>) | [SQL Server](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/sqlserver/cloud-sdk) (<https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/sqlserver/cloud-sdk>)

This page describes how to get started with the [Cloud SDK](https://cloud.google.com/sdk/docs/) (<https://cloud.google.com/sdk/docs/>) so you can use it to manage Cloud SQL instances. The Cloud SDK provides the `gcloud` command-line tool to interact with Cloud SQL and other Google Cloud services. The `gcloud` tool uses the API to access Cloud SQL, so you must enable the API before you can use the `gcloud` tool to access Cloud SQL.

For `gcloud` examples, see the [How-to page](https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/mysql/how-to) (<https://cloud.google.com/sql/docs/mysql/how-to>) for the task.

## Getting started with the `gcloud` command-line tool

To start with the `gcloud` tool, review the [Cloud SDK Documentation](https://cloud.google.com/sdk/docs/) (<https://cloud.google.com/sdk/docs/>). You can get help for the tool, resources, and commands by using the `--help` flag:

```
gcloud sql --help
gcloud sql instances --help
gcloud sql instances create --help
```



The help displayed with the `--help` flag is also available in the Cloud SDK reference for [gcloud sql](https://cloud.google.com/sdk/gcloud/reference/sql/) (<https://cloud.google.com/sdk/gcloud/reference/sql/>).

Finally, configure a project as your default project with two commands. The first command below lists the configuration for the `gcloud` tool, including any default project already set. The second command sets the default project.

```
gcloud config list
gcloud config set project [PROJECT_ID]
```



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