This page
describes how you can disable and enable replication for a read replica, as well as how to
promote a replica to a stand-alone instance or delete it. For information about working with
read replicas, see Requirements and Tips for Configuring Replication
(/sql/docs/postgres/replication/tips).

By default, a replica starts with replication enabled. However, you can disable replication, for
example, to debug or analyze the state of an instance. When you are ready, you explicitly
reenable replication. Disabling or reenabling replication restarts the replica.

Disabling replication does not stop the replica instance; it becomes a read-only instance that is
no longer replicating from its master instance. You continue to be charged for the instance. You
can reenable replication on the disabled replica, delete the replica, or promote the replica to a
stand-alone instance. You cannot stop the replica.

To disable replication:

If a replica has not been replicating for a long time, it will take longer for it to catch up to the master. In this case, you should delete the replica and create a new one.

To enable replication:

Promoting a replica to a stand-alone Cloud SQL instance is an irreversible action. Once promoted, an instance cannot be converted back to a read replica.

To promote a replica to a stand-alone instance:

Confirm that the promoted instance is configured correctly. In particular, you should <u>enable</u> <u>automated backups</u> (/sql/docs/postgres/backup-recovery/backing-up#schedulebackups) and consider <u>configuring the instance for high availability</u> (/sql/docs/configure-ha#ha-existing) if needed.

When you log into an individual replica instance using an administration client, you get details about replication, including status and metrics. When you use the Google Cloud Console or the `gcloud` command-line tool, you get a brief summary of replication.

To check replication status:

- Learn how to <u>create a read replica</u> (/sql/docs/postgres/replication/create-replica).

- Learn more about <u>requirements and best practices for replication</u>
  (/sql/docs/postgres/replication/tips).