

This page describes how to move your data to an instance running a later version of PostgreSQL.

The steps for moving your data from one version of PostgreSQL to another involve *exporting* data from the current instance and *importing* that data into a new instance running the later version of PostgreSQL.

Before moving your data to an instance running a newer version of PostgreSQL, you should familiarize yourself with the differences between the PostgreSQL versions:

- [Changes affecting upgrades to PostgreSQL 11](https://www.postgresql.org/docs/11/static/release-11.html)
(<https://www.postgresql.org/docs/11/static/release-11.html>).

To move your data to a Cloud SQL instance running a later version of PostgreSQL:

1. Create the target instance, with the desired PostgreSQL version.

Make sure the target instance has:

- Sufficient storage to hold all of the current instance's data.
- The same authorized networks as the current instance. [Learn more](/sql/docs/postgres/configure-ip) (</sql/docs/postgres/configure-ip>).
- The same user accounts, with the same PostgreSQL privileges and passwords.

For help with creating an instance, see [Creating an instance](#) (/sql/docs/postgres/create-instance).

2. Confirm that you can connect to the new instance with your local PostgreSQL tools and update them if necessary.
3. Export the current instance's data to a PostgreSQL dump file, following the instructions in [Exporting data for Import into Cloud SQL](#) (/sql/docs/postgres/import-export/exporting).
Do not export the `postgres` system database.
4. [Create a Cloud Storage bucket](#) (/storage/docs/creating-buckets) if needed, and upload your SQL dump file to the bucket.
5. Import the data to the target instance, following the instructions in [Importing PostgreSQL databases from Cloud Storage](#) (/sql/docs/postgres/import-export/importing#mysqldump).
6. Update your applications to connect to the new instance.
7. When you are confident that your new instance is operating successfully, delete the old instance.

★ **Note:** After deleting an instance, the instance name can't be reused for up to a week.

- Learn more about [Changes affecting upgrades to PostgreSQL 11](#) (<https://www.postgresql.org/docs/11/static/release-11.html>).
- Learn about [importing and exporting data](#) (/sql/docs/postgres/import-export/).
- Learn about [options for connecting to an instance](#) (/sql/docs/postgres/external-connection-methods).
- Learn more about [setting PostgreSQL flags](#) (/sql/docs/postgres/flags).

