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# **pgctl Documentation**

***Release 0.1.0***

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## Introduction

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`pgctl` is an [MIT Licensed](#) tool to manage developer “playgrounds”.

Often projects have various processes that should run in the background (*services*) during development. These services amount to a miniature staging environment that we term *playground*. Each service must have a well-defined state at all times (it should be starting, up, stopping, or down), and should be independantly restartable and debuggable.

`pgctl` aims to solve this problem in a unified, language-agnostic framework (although the tool happens to be written in Python).

As a simple example, let’s say that we want a *date* service in our playground, that ensures our *now.date* file always has the current date.

```
$ cat playground/date/run
date > now.date

$ pgctl-2015 start
$ pgctl-2015 status
date -- up (0 seconds)

$ cat now.date
Fri Jun 26 15:21:26 PDT 2015

$ pgctl-2015 stop
$ pgctl-2015 status
date -- down (0 seconds)
```





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## Feature Support

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- User-friendly Command Line Interface
- Simple Configuration
- Python 2.6—3.4
- pypy and pypy3



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## User Guide

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This part of the documentation, which is mostly prose, begins with some background information about Requests, then focuses on step-by-step instructions for getting the most out of Requests.

### 3.1 Installation

This part of the documentation covers the installation of pgctl. The first step to using any software package is getting it properly installed.

#### 3.1.1 Distribute & Pip

Installing pgctl is simple with `pip`, just run this in your terminal:

```
$ pip install pgctl
```

#### 3.1.2 Get the Code

pgctl is actively developed on GitHub, where the code is [always available](#).

You can either clone the public repository:

```
$ git clone git://github.com/yelp/pgctl.git
```

Download the [tarball](#):

```
$ curl -OL https://github.com/yelp/pgctl/tarball/master
```

Or, download the [zipball](#):

```
$ curl -OL https://github.com/yelp/pgctl/zipball/master
```

Once you have a copy of the source, you can embed it in your Python package, or install it into your site-packages easily:

```
$ python setup.py install
```

## 3.2 User Guide

### 3.2.1 Usage

pgctl has eight basic commands: `start`, `stop`, `restart`, `debug`, `status`, `log`, `reload`, `config`

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**Note:** With no arguments, `pgctl <cmd>` is equivalent to `pgctl <cmd> default`. By default, `default` maps to all services. See [Aliases](#).

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#### start

```
$ pgctl start <service=default>
```

Starts a specific service, group of services, or all services. This command is blocking until all services have successfully reached the up state. `start` is idempotent.

#### stop

```
$ pgctl stop <service=default>
```

Stops a specific service, group of services, or all services. This command is blocking until all services have successfully reached the down state. `stop` is idempotent.

#### restart

```
$ pgctl restart <service=default>
```

Stops and starts specific service, group of services, or all services. This command is blocking until all services have successfully reached the down state.

#### debug

```
$ pgctl debug <service=default>
```

Runs a specific service in the foreground.

#### status

```
$ pgctl status <service=default>  
<service> pid(<PID>) -- up (0 seconds)
```

Retrieves the state, PID, and time in that state of a specific service, group of services, or all services.

#### log

```
$ pgctl log <service=default>
```

Retrieves the stdout and stderr for a specific service, group of services, or all services.

## reload

```
$ pgctl reload <service=default>
```

Reloads the configuration for a specific service, group of services, or all services.

## config

```
$ pgctl config <service=default>
```

Prints out a configuration for a specific service, group of services, or all services.

## 3.3 Quickstart

This page attempts to be a quick-and-dirty guide to getting started with pgctl.

### 3.3.1 Setting up

The minimal setup for pgctl is a `playground` directory containing the services you want to run. A service consists of a directory with a `run` script. The script should run in the foreground.

```
$ cat playground/date/run
date > now.date
```

Once this is in place, you can start your playground and see it run.

```
$ pgctl start
$ pgctl logs
[webapp] Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 36474 ...

$ curl
```

### 3.3.2 Aliases

With no arguments, `pgctl start` is equivalent to `pgctl start default`. By default, `default` maps to a list of all services. You can configure what `default` means via `playground/config.yaml`:

```
aliases:
  default:
    - service1
    - service2
```

You can also add other aliases this way. When you name an alias, it simply expands to the list of configured services, so that `pgctl start A-and-B` would be entirely equivalent to `pgctl start A B`.



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## API Documentation

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If you are looking for information on a specific function, class or method, this part of the documentation is for you.

### 4.1 pgctl package

#### 4.1.1 Submodules

#### 4.1.2 pgctl.cli module

```
class pgctl.cli.PgctlApp (config=<frozendict {u'services': (u'default', ), u'pgdir': u'playground',
                                     u'pgconf': u'conf.yaml', u'pghome': u'~/run/pgctl'}>)
```

Bases: `object`

**aliases**

A dictionary of aliases that can be expanded to services

**all\_services**

Return a tuple of all of the Services.

**Returns** tuple of Service objects

**app\_invariants ()**

The are the things we want to be able to say “always” about.

**commands** = (<function start at 0x7f7d7283d410>, <function stop at 0x7f7d7283d488>, <function status at 0x7f7d7283d510>)

**config ()**

Print the configuration for a service

**debug ()**

Allow a service to run in the foreground

**idempotent\_supervise ()**

ensure all services are supervised starting in a down state by contract, running this method repeatedly should have no negative consequences

**log ()**

Displays the stdout and stderr for a service or group of services

**pgdir**

Retrieve the set playground directory

**pghome**

Retrieve the set pgctl home directory.

By default, this is “\$XDG\_RUNTIME\_DIR/pgctl”.

**reload()**

Reloads the configuration for a service

**restart()**

Starts and stops a service

**service\_by\_name(service\_name)**

Return an instantiated Service, by name.

**service\_names**

**services**

Return a tuple of the services for a command

**Returns** tuple of Service objects

**services\_string**

**start()**

Idempotent start of a service or group of services

**status()**

Retrieve the PID and state of a service or group of services

**stop()**

Idempotent stop of a service or group of services

**unsupervise()**

`pgctl.cli.exec_(argv, env=None)`

Wrapper to `os.execv` which runs any atexit handlers (for coverage’s sake). Like `os.execv`, this function never returns.

`pgctl.cli.main(argv=None)`

`pgctl.cli.parser()`

### 4.1.3 Module contents



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## Contributor Guide

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If you want to contribute to the project, this part of the documentation is for you.



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