

# Connecting with Go

This guide explains how to establish a connection between a **Go (Golang)** application and a **PostgreSQL** database using the `github.com/lib/pq` driver. It walks through the necessary setup, configuration, and execution of a simple SQL query.

## Variables

To connect to a PostgreSQL database, you only need one environment variable — the **connection URI**. This URI contains all the necessary information like username, password, host, port, and database name.

Variable	Description	Purpose
<b>POSTGRES_URL</b>	Full PostgreSQL connection string (from the Elestio service overview page)	Provides all necessary credentials and endpoint details in a single URI format.

The URI will look like this:

```
postgresql://<USER>:<PASSWORD>@<HOST>:<PORT>/<DATABASE>
```

You can find the details needed in the URI from the **Elestio service overview** details. Copy and replace the variables carefully in the URI example provided above.



postgresql-2p7j1

PostgreSQL

Running

Open terminal

Delete service

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Overview

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Metrics

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Termination protection

Disabled. VM can be powered off and terminated.

Protection deactivated



Database Admin

Display your database credentials

Hide DB Credentials

Host

postgresql-2p7j1-u7774.vm.elestio.app



Port

25432



User

postgres



Password

\*\*\*\*\*

Show password



CLI

PGPASSWORD=\*\*\*\*\* psql --host=postgresql-2p7j1-u7774.vm.elestio.app --port=25432 --username=postgres

Show password



# Prerequisites

## Install Go

Check if Go is installed by running:

```
go version
```

If not installed, download and install it from <https://go.dev/dl/>.

## Install pq Package

Install the pq driver using:

```
go get github.com/lib/pq
```

# Code

Once all prerequisites are set up, create a new file named `main.go` and add the following code, and replace the `POSTGRES_URI` with actual link or in environment setup as you wish:

```

package main

import (
    "database/sql"
    "fmt"
    "log"
    "net/url"

    _ "github.com/lib/pq"
)

func getDBConnection(connectionString string) (*sql.DB, error) {
    parsedURL, err := url.Parse(connectionString)
    if err != nil {
        return nil, fmt.Errorf("Failed to parse connection string: %v", err)
    }

    db, err := sql.Open("postgres", parsedURL.String())
    if err != nil {
        return nil, fmt.Errorf("Failed to open database connection: %v", err)
    }

    return db, nil
}

func main() {
    connectionString := "POSTGRESQL_URI"

    db, err := getDBConnection(connectionString)
    if err != nil {
        log.Fatal(err)
    }
    defer db.Close()

    query := "SELECT current_database(), current_user, version()"
    rows, err := db.Query(query)
    if err != nil {
        log.Fatal("Failed to execute query:", err)
    }
    defer rows.Close()
}

```

```
for rows.Next() {  
    var dbName, user, version string  
    if err := rows.Scan(&dbName, &user, &version); err != nil {  
        log.Fatal("Failed to scan row:", err)  
    }  
    fmt.Printf("Database: %s\nUser: %s\nVersion: %s\n", dbName, user, version)  
}  
}
```

To execute the script, open the terminal or command prompt and navigate to the directory where `main.go`. Once in the correct directory, run the script with the command

```
go run main.go
```

If the connection is successful, the terminal will display output similar to:

```
Database: Elestio  
User: postgres  
Version: PostgreSQL 16.8 (Debian 16.8-1.pgdg120+1) on x86_64-pc-linux-gnu, compiled by gcc  
(Debian 12.2.0-14) 12.2.0, 64-bit
```

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