

Connecting with Node.js

This guide explains how to establish a connection between a Node.js application and a PostgreSQL database using the `pg` package. It walks through the necessary setup, configuration, and execution of a simple SQL query.

Variables

Certain parameters must be provided to establish a successful connection to a PostgreSQL database. Below is a breakdown of each required variable, its purpose, and where to find it. Here's what each variable represents:

Variable	Description	Purpose
<code>USER</code>	PostgreSQL username, from the Elestio service overview page	Identifies the database user who has permission to access the PostgreSQL database.
<code>PASSWORD</code>	PostgreSQL password, from the Elestio service overview page	The authentication key required for the specified <code>USER</code> to access the database
<code>HOST</code>	Hostname for PostgreSQL connection, from the Elestio service overview page	The address of the server hosting the PostgreSQL database.
<code>PORT</code>	Port for PostgreSQL connection, from the Elestio service overview page	The network port is used to connect to PostgreSQL. The default port is <code>5432</code> .
<code>DATABASE</code>	Database Name for PostgreSQL connection, from the Elestio service overview page	The name of the database being accessed. A PostgreSQL instance can contain multiple databases.

These values can usually be found in the Elestio service overview details as shown in the image below, make sure to take a copy of these details and add it to the code moving ahead.

The screenshot shows the service details for a PostgreSQL instance named 'postgresql-2p7j1'. The instance is currently running. Key sections include:

- Termination protection:** Disabled. VM can be powered off and terminated. Protection deactivated.
- Database Admin:** Displays database credentials:
 - Host: postgresql-2p7j1-u7774.vm.elestio.app
 - Port: 25432
 - User: postgres
 - Password: ***** (with a 'Show password' link)
 - CLI: PGPASSWORD=***** psql --host=postgresql-2p7j1-u7774.vm.elestio.app --port=25432 --username=postgres (with a 'Show password' link)

Prerequisites

- **Install Node.js and NPM**

- Check if Node.js is installed by running:
`node -v`
- If not installed, download it from nodejs.org and install.
- Verify npm installation:
`npm -v`

- **Install the pg Package**

The `pg` package enables Node.js applications to interact with PostgreSQL. Install it using:
`npm install pg --save`

Code

Once all prerequisites are set up, create a new file named `pg.js` and add the following code:

```
const pg = require("pg");
```

```

// Database connection configuration
const config = {
  user: "USER",
  password: "PASSWORD",
  host: "HOST",
  port: "PORT",
  database: "DATABASE",
};

// Create a new PostgreSQL client
const client = new pg.Client(config);

// Connect to the database
client.connect((err) => {
  if (err) {
    console.error("Connection failed:", err);
    return;
  }
  console.log("Connected to PostgreSQL");

  // Run a test query to check the PostgreSQL version
  client.query("SELECT VERSION()", [], (err, result) => {
    if (err) {
      console.error("Query execution failed:", err);
      client.end();
      return;
    }

    console.log("PostgreSQL Version:", result.rows[0]);

    // Close the database connection
    client.end((err) => {
      if (err) console.error("Error closing connection:", err);
    });
  });
});

```

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

```
node pg.js
```

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

```
Connected to PostgreSQL
PostgreSQL Version: {
  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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