



# Get Started with EDB BigAnimal

Get up and running quickly with this step-by-step guide to EDB BigAnimal, a fully managed Postgres-as-a-Service.

[www.enterprisedb.com/accounts/register/biganimal](http://www.enterprisedb.com/accounts/register/biganimal)

# Welcome to BigAnimal

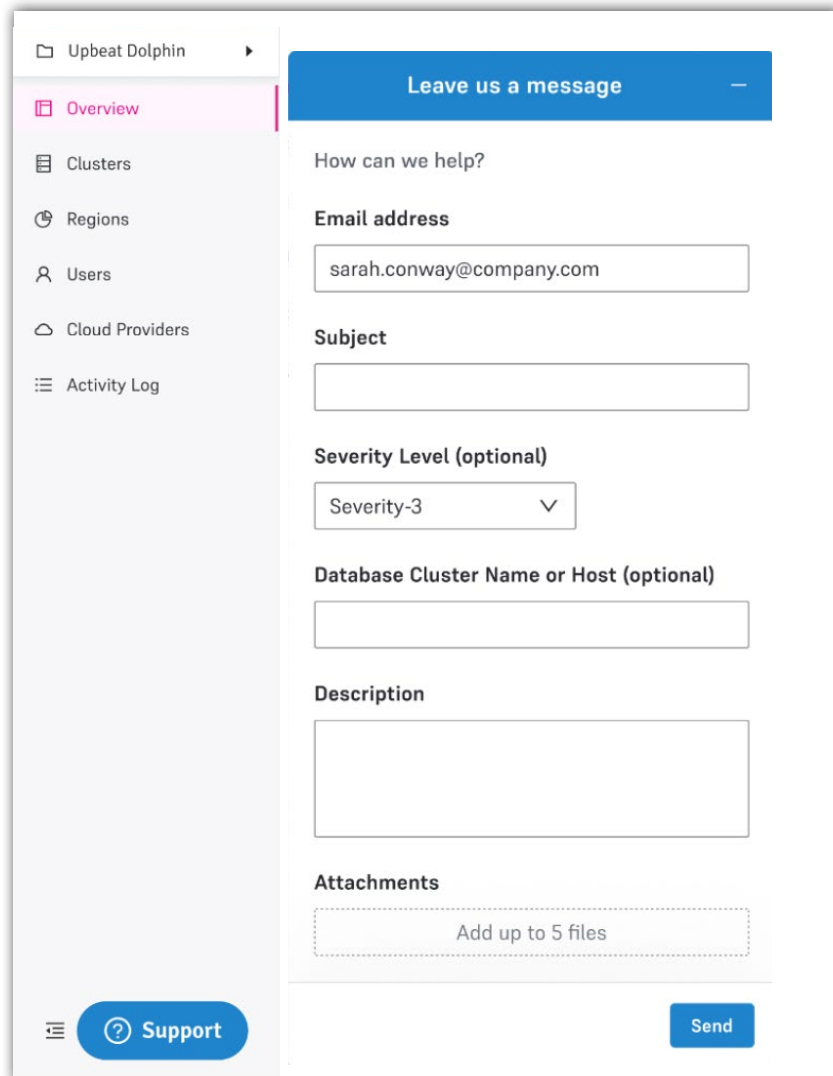
Get ready to see what BigAnimal can do for you.

Let's dive in! **Experience BigAnimal now**

- To get started, you have \$300 in free credits. Included in your BigAnimal experience is the following:  
A fully-managed Postgres database environment
- The ability to create clusters that you can start, stop, delete, or re-create at any time
- The ability to access and change database configuration parameters
- Pages to manage regions, users, cloud providers, and even view usage reports
- A log that tracks your activity
- Your choice of PostgreSQL or EDB Postgres Advanced Server, which is Oracle compatible
- The ability to deploy on multiple cloud service providers (Azure, AWS, and Google Cloud)

## BigAnimal Support

With BigAnimal, you have access to experts who help build PostgreSQL. If you need product support, would like to talk to your account team, or have other inquiries, click on the blue Support button anytime to submit a Support ticket.



The screenshot shows a web interface for submitting a support ticket. On the left is a sidebar with navigation items: Overview (highlighted), Clusters, Regions, Users, Cloud Providers, and Activity Log. The main content area is titled 'Leave us a message' and contains the following fields:

- How can we help? (text input)
- Email address (text input with value: sarah.conway@company.com)
- Subject (text input)
- Severity Level (optional) (dropdown menu with value: Severity-3)
- Database Cluster Name or Host (optional) (text input)
- Description (text input)
- Attachments (dashed box with text: Add up to 5 files)

At the bottom left, there is a blue 'Support' button with a question mark icon. At the bottom right, there is a blue 'Send' button.

## Compatibility with Oracle databases

A unique benefit of BigAnimal is its compatibility with Oracle queries, syntax, and functions in the cloud. This functionality is delivered with EDB Postgres Advanced Server (EPAS), and is specifically designed to save you time and minimize risk.

Many SQL commands supported by EDB Postgres Advanced Server are also compatible with Oracle databases, and can be run on either database. For additional references on which commands are available along with syntax, options, and functionality, please visit the [EDB Docs](#).

These capabilities ensure you don't have to worry about rewriting or reconfiguring entire architectures to accommodate new syntax, and lose the work you've already invested time and resources in. Rather, by giving you the ability to reuse existing logic with minimal modification, EPAS and BigAnimal allow you to focus on solving new problems, and advancing your business goals.

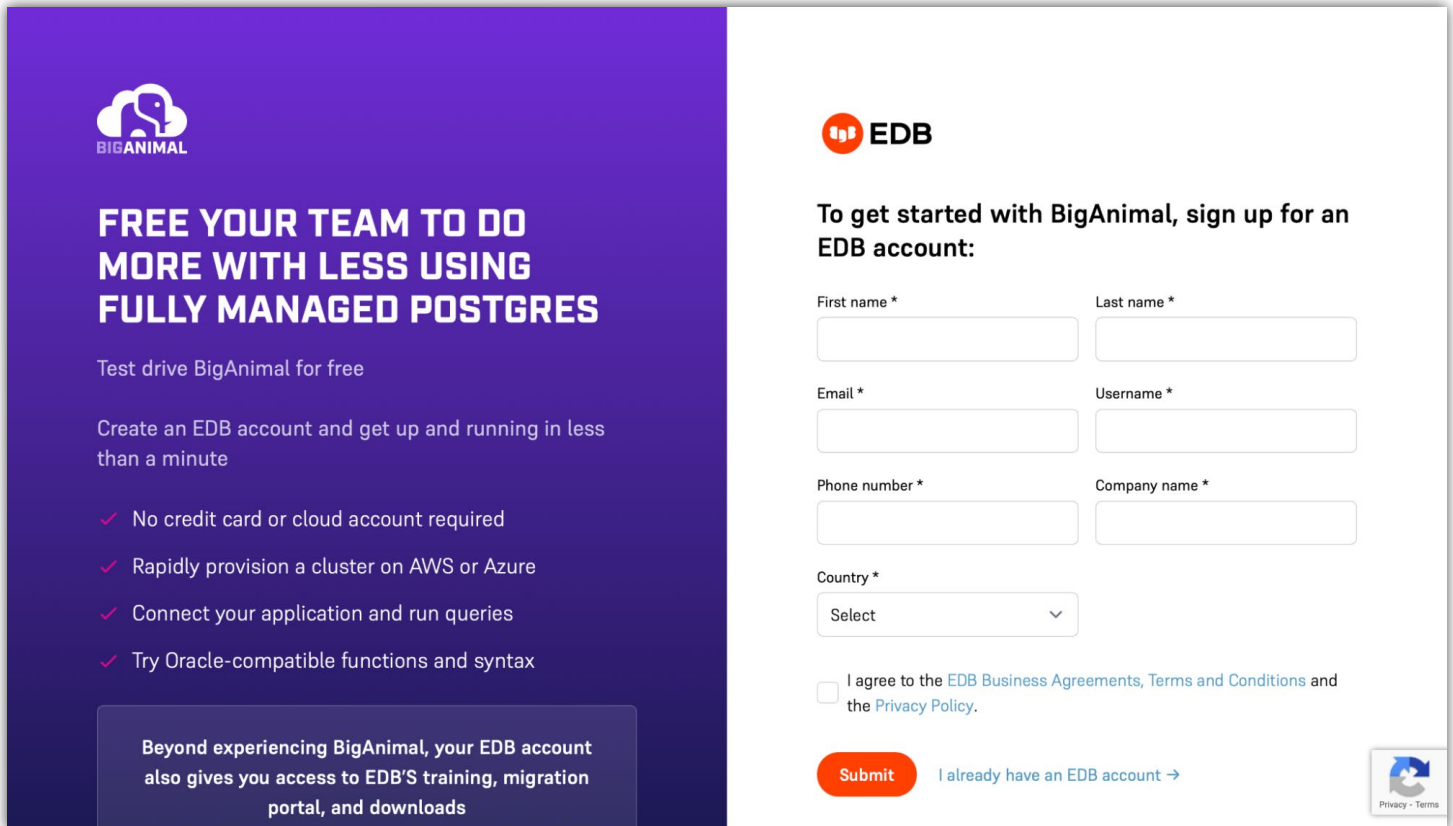
You can try Oracle syntax compatibility by creating an EDB Postgres Advanced Server cluster and following along with our [demonstration of Oracle compatibility](#)—or import your own data and adapt your favorite queries using our [developer documentation](#).

If you want to learn about migrating existing Oracle databases to BigAnimal, check out [our BigAnimal docs](#).

# How to get started with EDB BigAnimal

## 1. Create an EDB account

Navigate to EDB's BigAnimal page at [www.biganimal.com](http://www.biganimal.com). Click on "Start for Free" and you'll be taken to a sign-up page where you can create an EDB account to access BigAnimal.



The screenshot shows the EDB BigAnimal sign-up page. On the left, a purple banner features the BigAnimal logo and the text: "FREE YOUR TEAM TO DO MORE WITH LESS USING FULLY MANAGED POSTGRES". Below this, it says "Test drive BigAnimal for free" and "Create an EDB account and get up and running in less than a minute". A list of benefits includes: "No credit card or cloud account required", "Rapidly provision a cluster on AWS or Azure", "Connect your application and run queries", and "Try Oracle-compatible functions and syntax". A box at the bottom of the banner states: "Beyond experiencing BigAnimal, your EDB account also gives you access to EDB'S training, migration portal, and downloads".

On the right, the EDB logo is displayed above the heading: "To get started with BigAnimal, sign up for an EDB account:". The form includes the following fields: "First name \*", "Last name \*", "Email \*", "Username \*", "Phone number \*", and "Company name \*". There is a "Country \*" dropdown menu with "Select" as the current option. Below the form is a checkbox for "I agree to the EDB Business Agreements, Terms and Conditions and the Privacy Policy." At the bottom, there is a red "Submit" button and a link "I already have an EDB account →". A "Privacy - Terms" link is located in the bottom right corner.

Follow the instructions to check your email, activate your new account, and then create a password. Beyond access to BigAnimal, your EDB account also gives you access to training, the migration portal, and downloads.

If you already have an existing EDB account, you can sign in and access BigAnimal from your Dashboard (located under My Account).

## 2. Create a cluster

You have \$300 in credits and full access to all the features and functionality of BigAnimal, right from the start. Choose whatever regions, instance types, private networking, storage options, or any other possible configurations you need for your project. Need help? Don't forget you can contact the EDB team via the user interface at any time.

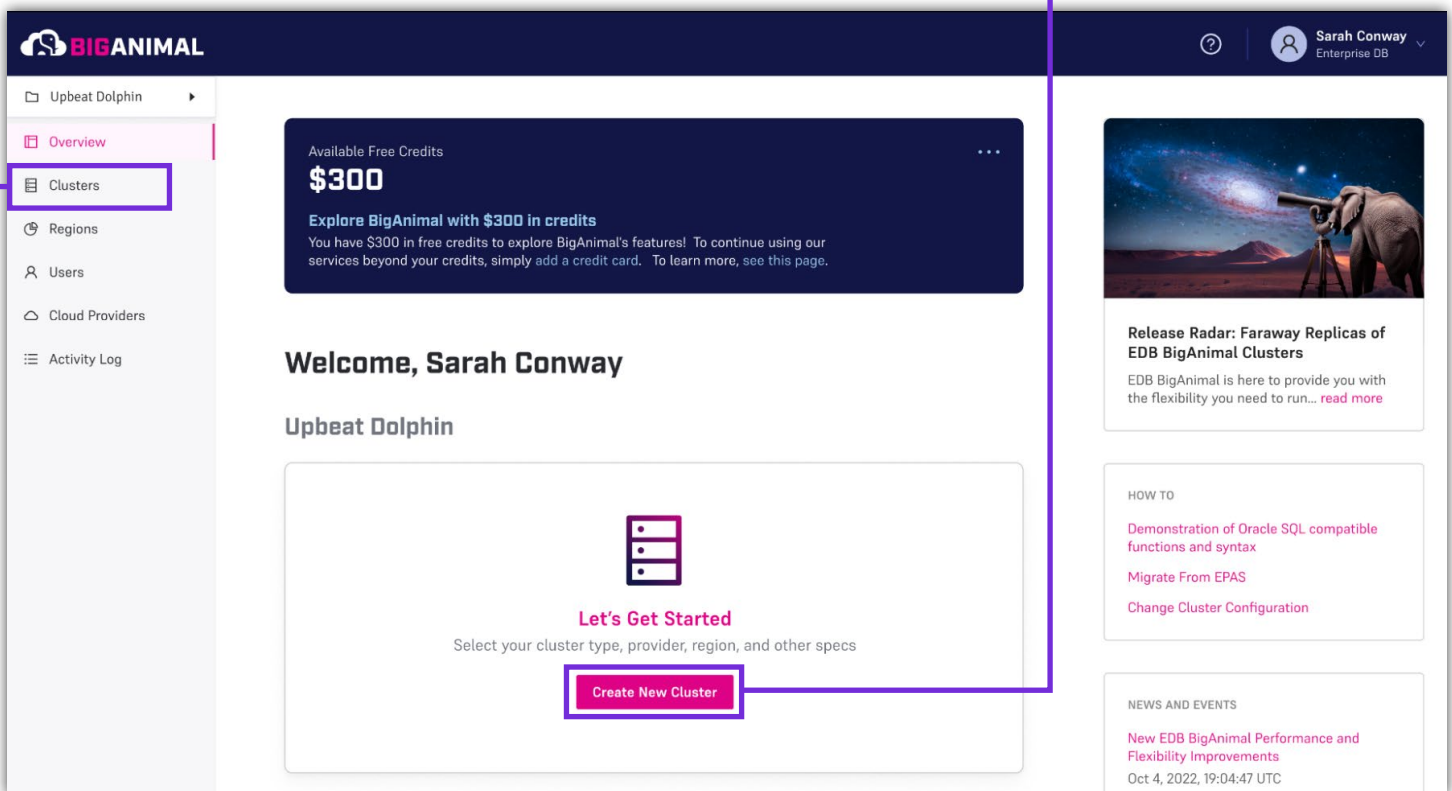
The cluster name and administrator password can be set on the Cluster Settings page during the Create Cluster workflow or modified afterwards on the Clusters page.

Once you log in, you'll see How To resources and Quick Links on the Overview page.

Click on "Create New Cluster" from the Overview page to get started. This will take you to the Create Cluster wizard.

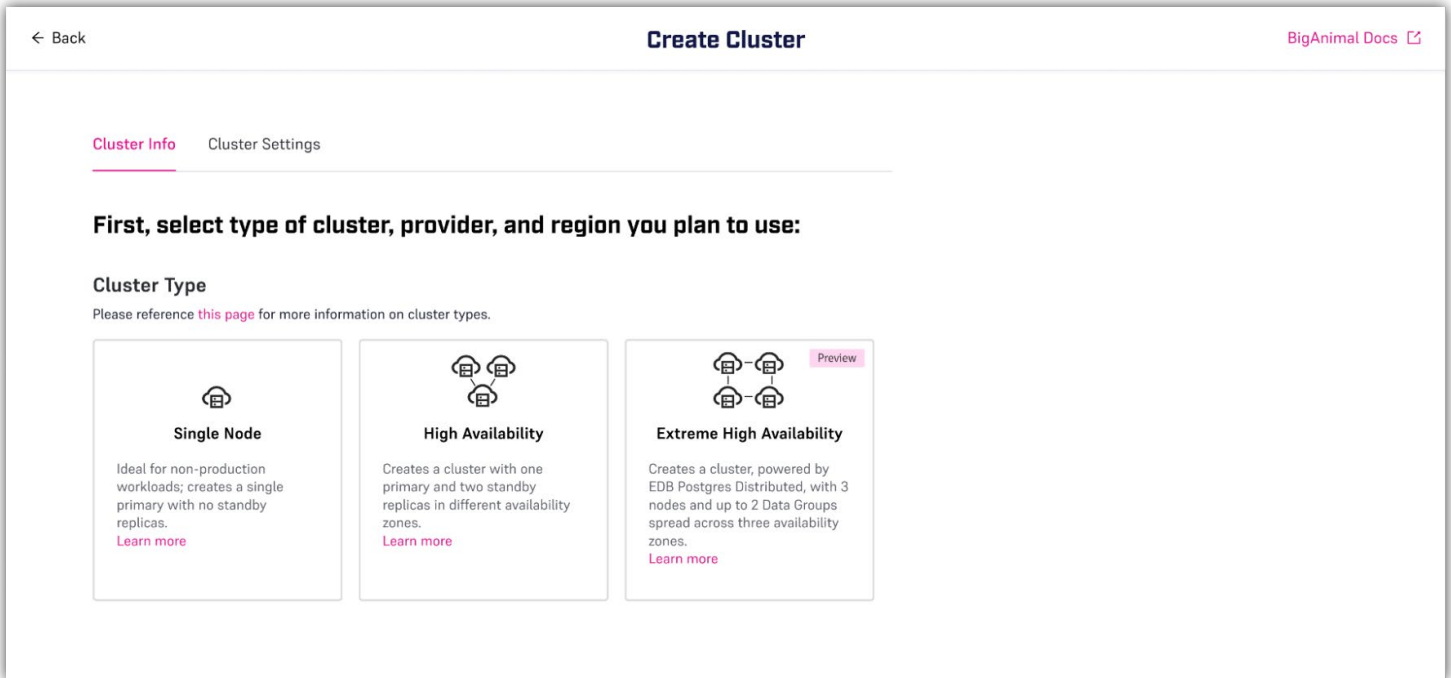
Or, you can create a cluster on the Clusters page.

[Click here to learn more about creating a cluster.](#)



The screenshot displays the BigAnimal user interface. At the top left, the BigAnimal logo is visible. The user is logged in as Sarah Conway, Enterprise DB. The main content area shows a welcome message for Sarah Conway and a section for 'Upbeat Dolphin' with a 'Let's Get Started' button. A purple box highlights the 'Create New Cluster' button. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Overview, Clusters, Regions, Users, Cloud Providers, and Activity Log. The right sidebar features a 'Release Radar' section with a 'Faraway Replicas of EDB BigAnimal Clusters' article, a 'HOW TO' section with links for 'Demonstration of Oracle SQL compatible functions and syntax', 'Migrate From EPAS', and 'Change Cluster Configuration', and a 'NEWS AND EVENTS' section with a link for 'New EDB BigAnimal Performance and Flexibility Improvements' dated Oct 4, 2022.

You can design your infrastructure for different levels of availability, including a single node for development or test environments, a high available setup with a primary and two standby replicas in up to three different availability zones, or a preview of EDB's Postgres Distributed (PGD) where 3 nodes and up to 2 data groups are deployed across three availability zones. PGD also provides the capability for geo-distributed, multi-write workloads to support continuous availability.




← Back Create Cluster [BigAnimal Docs](#)


**Cluster Info** Cluster Settings

**First, select type of cluster, provider, and region you plan to use:**


**Cluster Type**  
Please reference [this page](#) for more information on cluster types.

  
**Single Node**

Ideal for non-production workloads; creates a single primary with no standby replicas.  
[Learn more](#)

  
**High Availability**

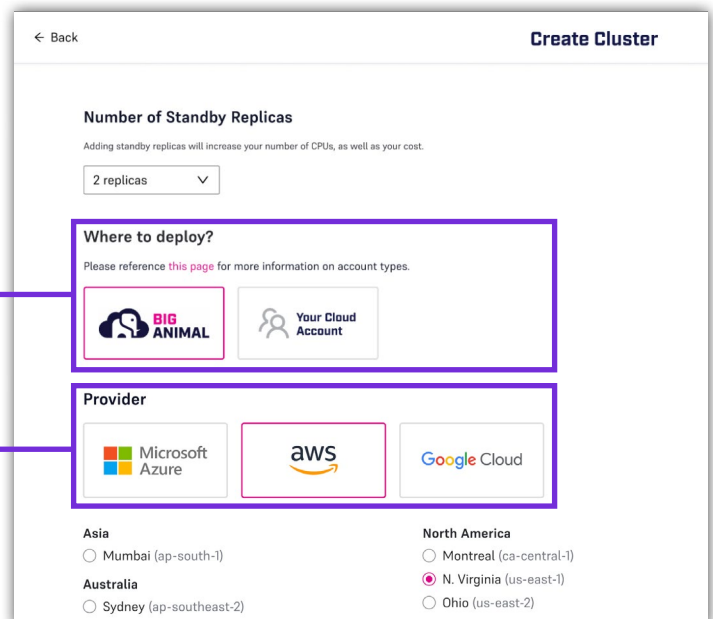
Creates a cluster with one primary and two standby replicas in different availability zones.  
[Learn more](#)

  
**Extreme High Availability**

Creates a cluster, powered by EDB Postgres Distributed, with 3 nodes and up to 2 Data Groups spread across three availability zones.  
[Learn more](#)

You have the option of deploying a full version of BigAnimal in BigAnimal's Cloud Account or your own. When using BigAnimal's cloud account, you'll be able to get started right away. When using BigAnimal in your own cloud account, you can take advantage of existing discounts you've negotiated with your cloud service provider. In addition, your organization gets increased transparency when the service is running in your cloud account because you have full visibility into the environment.


Clusters can then be deployed on your choice of AWS, Azure, or Google Cloud. Based on the cloud service provider, different regions are available for use.




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**Number of Standby Replicas**  
Adding standby replicas will increase your number of CPUs, as well as your cost.  
2 replicas


**Where to deploy?**  
Please reference [this page](#) for more information on account types.






**Provider**







**Asia**  
 Mumbai (ap-south-1)

**Australia**  
 Sydney (ap-southeast-2)

**North America**  
 Montreal (ca-central-1)  
 N. Virginia (us-east-1)  
 Ohio (us-east-2)

The cluster name and administrator password can be set on the Cluster Settings page during the Create Cluster workflow or modified afterwards on the Clusters page.

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**Create Cluster**
BigAnimal Docs [↗](#)

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Cluster Info
**Cluster Settings**
DB Configuration
Additional Settings

All fields are required

### Cluster Name

### Password

Passwords must be at least 12 characters.

**i** We do not store your password and cannot retrieve it. If you forget your password, you can simply change it on the "Edit Cluster" page.

**Cluster Summary**

Cluster Type	High Availability
Cluster Nodes	3 nodes
Deployment	BigAnimal
Provider	Azure
Region	East US
Cluster Name	my-cluster
Postgres Type	EDB Postgres Advanced Server
Postgres Version	15
Instance Size	D2s v3, 2vCPU, 8GB RAM
Volume Type	Azure Premium Storage
Volume Properties	P1 (4 Gi, 120 Provisioned IOPS, 25 Provisioned MB/s)
Networking	Public
Backups Retention	30 days

You can choose either community out-of-the-box PostgreSQL or EDB Advanced Server (EPAS) for compatibility with Oracle for seamless migration. Postgres versions for all distributions of PostgreSQL and EPAS, both major and minor, are closely aligned with upstream releases to ensure top security and full functionality for your clusters.

### Database Type

Please reference [this page](#) for more information on database types, and [this page](#) for corresponding software tools entitlement.

Postgres Type

EDB Postgres Advanced Server

PostgreSQL

EDB offers an Oracle compatible database type powered by EDB Postgres Advanced Server.

Postgres Version

15
▼

Clusters are able to be further tuned using the instance type, storage, and network connectivity settings.

### Instance Type

Please reference [this page](#) to compare prices across database types.

Category

Memory optimized instances deliver high performance for large data sets processed in memory.

Instance Series

Instance Size

- r6i.large (2vCPU, 16GB RAM)
- r6i.xlarge (4vCPU, 32GB RAM)
- r6i.2xlarge (8vCPU, 64GB RAM)
- r6i.4xlarge (16vCPU, 128GB RAM)
- r6i.8xlarge (32vCPU, 256GB RAM)
- r6i.12xlarge (48vCPU, 384GB RAM)
- r6i.16xlarge (64vCPU, 512GB RAM)
- r6i.24xlarge (96vCPU, 768GB RAM)

Please reference [this page](#) for more information on instance types.

Have you raised your AWS service quotas yet? If not, [learn how](#).

### Storage

Please reference [this page](#) for more information about pricing.

#### Database Storage

Volume Type

**VOLUME PROPERTIES**

Size (4-16,384 Gi)

IOPS (100-2,000)

### Networking

Connectivity Type



You have instant access to database configuration parameters, so database parameters can be easily tuned and changed. Over 200+ database parameters can be optionally configured here, giving you greater flexibility and control over your environment. Sensible default settings are provided by BigAnimal for each parameter, but these can be customized based on your needs.

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## Create Cluster

Cluster Info   Cluster Settings   **DB Configuration**   Additional Settings

All fields are required

### Parameters

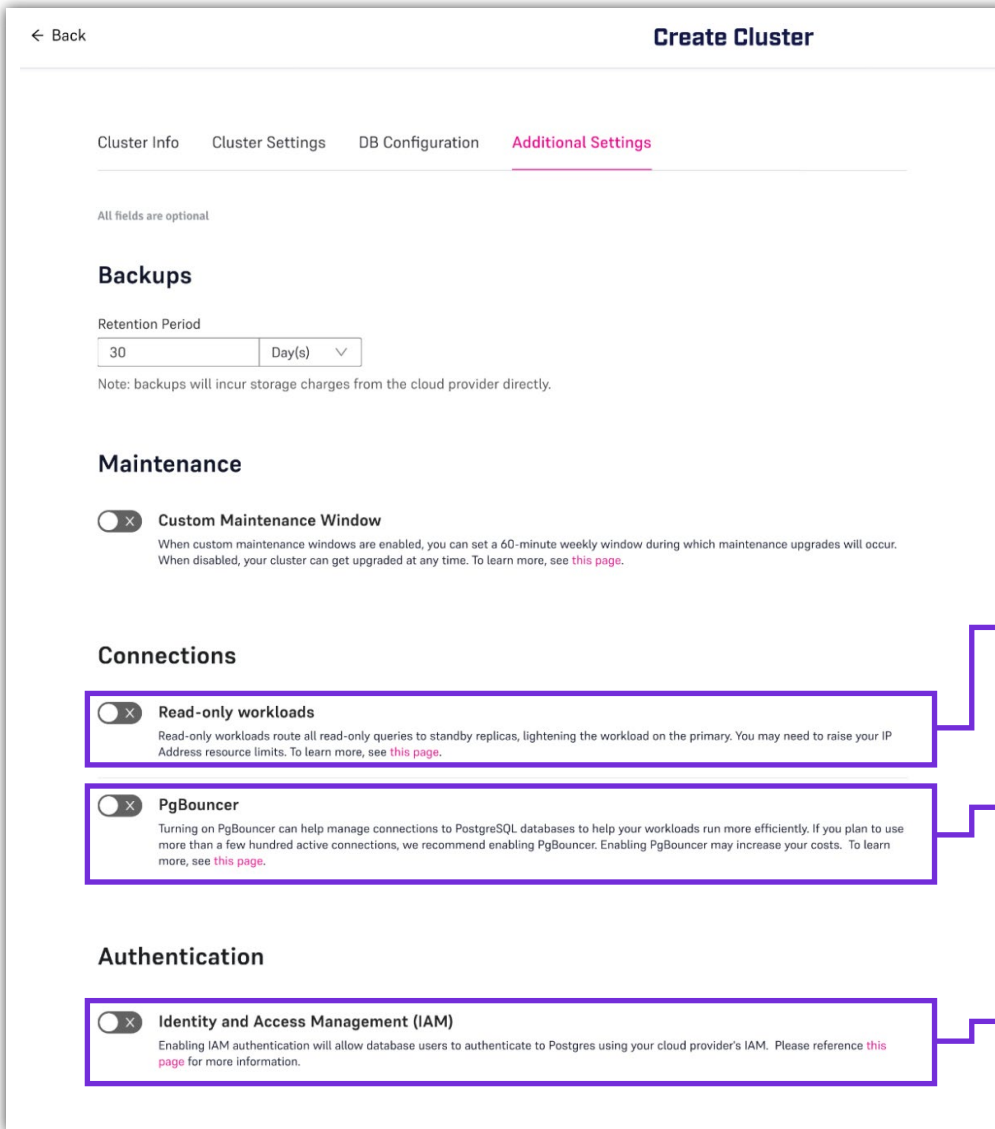
 

Show only:  ▾

Name	Value <a href="#">?</a>
application_name <a href="#">?</a>	<input type="text" value="archive_mode"/>
array_nulls <a href="#">?</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
authentication_timeout <a href="#">?</a>	<input type="text" value="60"/>
autovacuum <a href="#">?</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
autovacuum_analyze_scale_factor <a href="#">?</a>	<input type="text" value="0.1"/>
autovacuum_analyze_threshold <a href="#">?</a>	<input type="text" value="50"/>

**PgTuner is additionally available as an extension here to assist in configuring database parameters for your environment.**

There are even some additional settings that can be optionally configured as a last step.



← Back **Create Cluster**

Cluster Info Cluster Settings DB Configuration **Additional Settings**

All fields are optional

### Backups

Retention Period

30 Day(s) ▾

Note: backups will incur storage charges from the cloud provider directly.

### Maintenance

**Custom Maintenance Window**

When custom maintenance windows are enabled, you can set a 60-minute weekly window during which maintenance upgrades will occur. When disabled, your cluster can get upgraded at any time. To learn more, see [this page](#).

### Connections

**Read-only workloads**

Read-only workloads route all read-only queries to standby replicas, lightening the workload on the primary. You may need to raise your IP Address resource limits. To learn more, see [this page](#).

**PgBouncer**

Turning on PgBouncer can help manage connections to PostgreSQL databases to help your workloads run more efficiently. If you plan to use more than a few hundred active connections, we recommend enabling PgBouncer. Enabling PgBouncer may increase your costs. To learn more, see [this page](#).

### Authentication

**Identity and Access Management (IAM)**

Enabling IAM authentication will allow database users to authenticate to Postgres using your cloud provider's IAM. Please reference [this page](#) for more information.

You have the ability to configure connections and enable read-only workloads or turn on pgBouncer for connection pooling.

The retention period for backups or a custom maintenance window can be set here.

Finally, IAM authentication can be switched on here to authenticate using your cloud provider's IAM service.

After you've finished, select "Create Cluster" and you'll be taken to the Clusters page for managing your newly created cluster after it's initialized.

**Estimated Monthly Price: \$975** ⓘ  
Database: \$0.51 vcpu/hr + Infrastructure: \$0.82 BIU/hr

Back: DB Configurations **Create Cluster**

## 3. Manage your infrastructure

You have full access to manage different aspects of your infrastructure, including clusters, regions, users and roles, and cloud providers.

Upbeat Dolphin / Clusters

**Clusters** Create New Cluster

Active Deleted

Filter: Type(s): Version(s): Region(s): Cluster Type(s): Reset Filters Sort: Name (A-Z)

- my-cluster**  
Just created • EDB Postgres Advanced Server • v15 • Azure • East US • High Availability • D4s v3 • 4 Gi
- sn-cluster**  
Created 2 days ago • EDB Postgres Advanced Server • v15 • AWS • US East 1 • Single Node • m5.large • 4 Gi

Upbeat Dolphin / Regions

**Regions** Activate New Region

Search...  Filter: Provider: All Deployment: All Status: All Reset Filters Sort: Name (A-Z)

Name	Clusters	Provider	Deployment	Status	
Montreal (ca-canada-1)	3	aws	BigAnimal	Active	II □
Madrid (europe-southwest1)	3	Google Cloud	BigAnimal	Active	II □
Virginia (eastus)	2	Microsoft Azure	BigAnimal	Active	II □
Netherlands (west-europe)	1	Microsoft Azure	Your Cloud Account	Active	II □
Quebec (centralcanada)	1	Microsoft Azure	Your Cloud Account	Active	II □

< 1 2 3 4 5 >

Upbeat Dolphin / Users

**Users** Invite New User

To learn more about Project Roles and Users, see this page.

Search...  Filter: Project Role: All Invite Status: All Sort: Name (A-Z)

Full Name	Email	Project Role	
sarah conway	sarah.conway@edbpostgres.com	owner	🔗 □
navnath gadakh	navnath.gadakh@edbpostgres.com	owner, editor	🔗 □
yantian hu	yantian.hu@edbpostgres.com	owner, editor	🔗 □

Upbeat Dolphin / Your Cloud Providers

**Your Cloud Providers**

CONNECTION STATUS

- aws Connected ✓
- Microsoft Azure Connected ✓
- Google Cloud Connected ✓

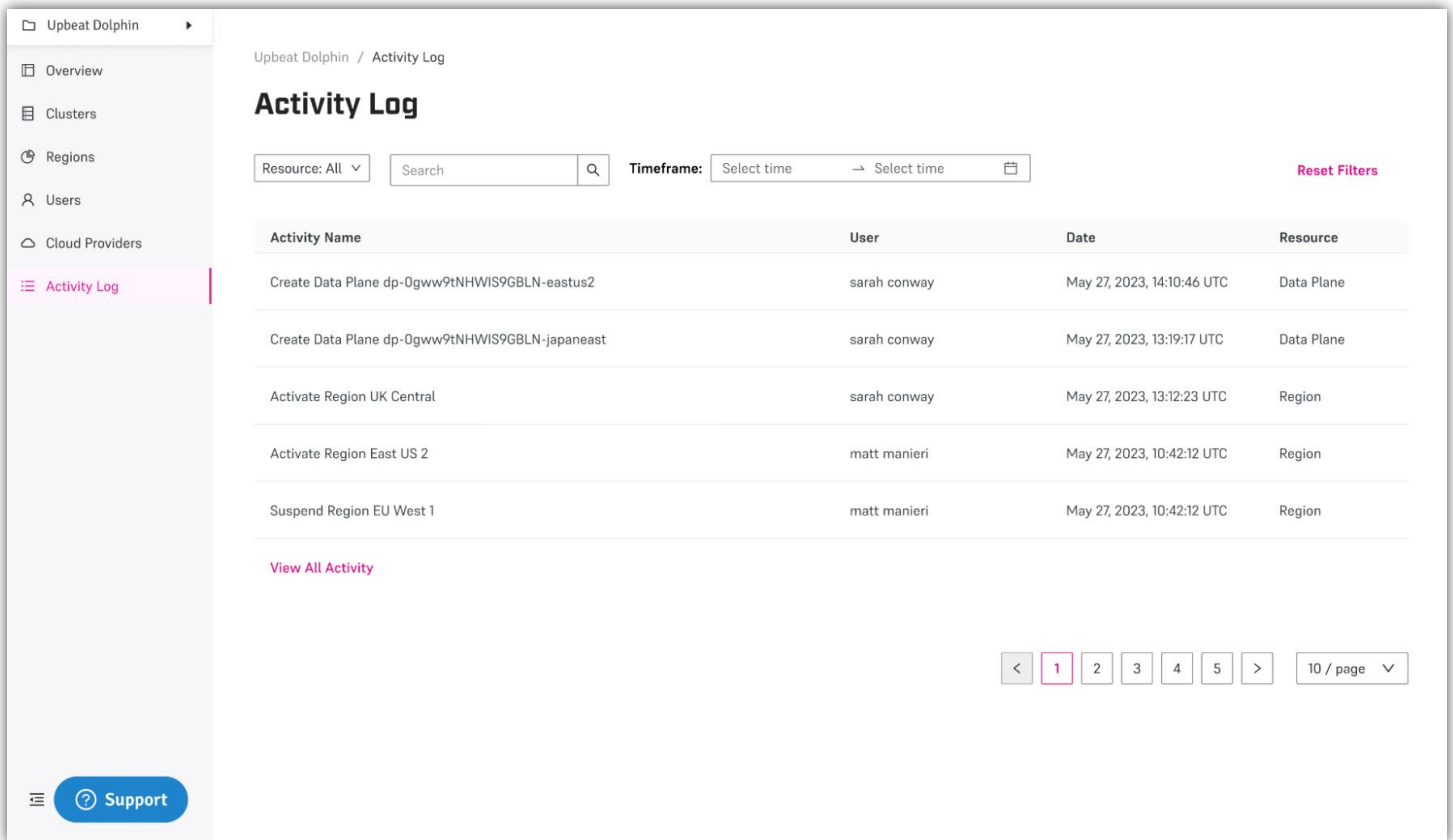
Need to disconnect your Cloud Service Provider? [Reach out to support.](#)

**Add Your Cloud Provider**

To add a cloud provider, download the BigAnimal CLI. Follow the command prompts in the CLI to set up the desired cloud provider. For more guidance, see this page.

## 4. Review the activity log

Once you've completed more activities than creating a cluster, such as activating a region, you'll be able to see logged activity in your activity log.



The screenshot shows the 'Activity Log' page in the Upbeat Dolphin application. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Overview, Clusters, Regions, Users, Cloud Providers, and Activity Log (highlighted). The main content area displays a table of activities with columns for Activity Name, User, Date, and Resource. The table lists five activities: creating two data planes, activating two regions, and suspending one region. Below the table is a 'View All Activity' link and a pagination control showing page 1 of 10.

Upbeat Dolphin / Activity Log

### Activity Log

Resource: All   Timeframe:  →   [Reset Filters](#)

Activity Name	User	Date	Resource
Create Data Plane dp-0gww9tNHWS9GBLN-eastus2	sarah conway	May 27, 2023, 14:10:46 UTC	Data Plane
Create Data Plane dp-0gww9tNHWS9GBLN-japaneast	sarah conway	May 27, 2023, 13:19:17 UTC	Data Plane
Activate Region UK Central	sarah conway	May 27, 2023, 13:12:23 UTC	Region
Activate Region East US 2	matt manieri	May 27, 2023, 10:42:12 UTC	Region
Suspend Region EU West 1	matt manieri	May 27, 2023, 10:42:12 UTC	Region

[View All Activity](#)

< 1 2 3 4 5 > 10 / page

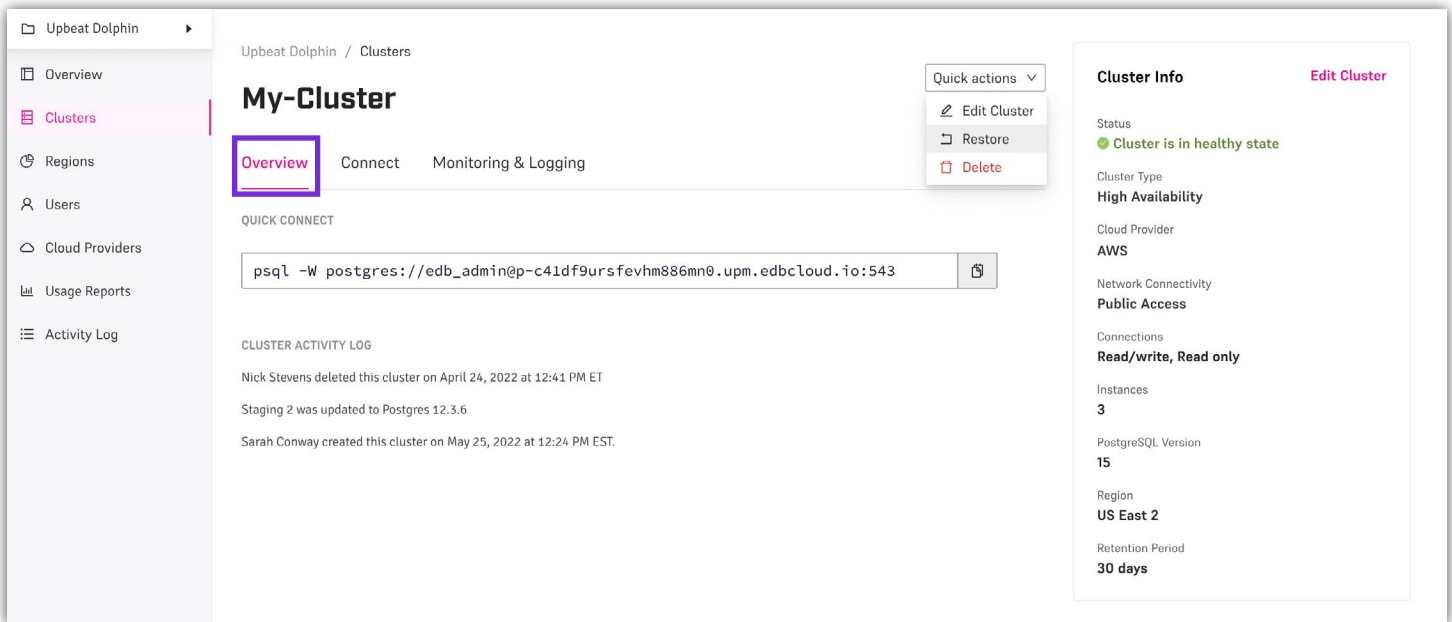
[Support](#)

## 5. Connect your cluster to an application and run some queries.

Congratulations! You've now successfully spun up a cluster in BigAnimal, are aware of how to manage different aspects of your database infrastructure, and know how to view database activity.

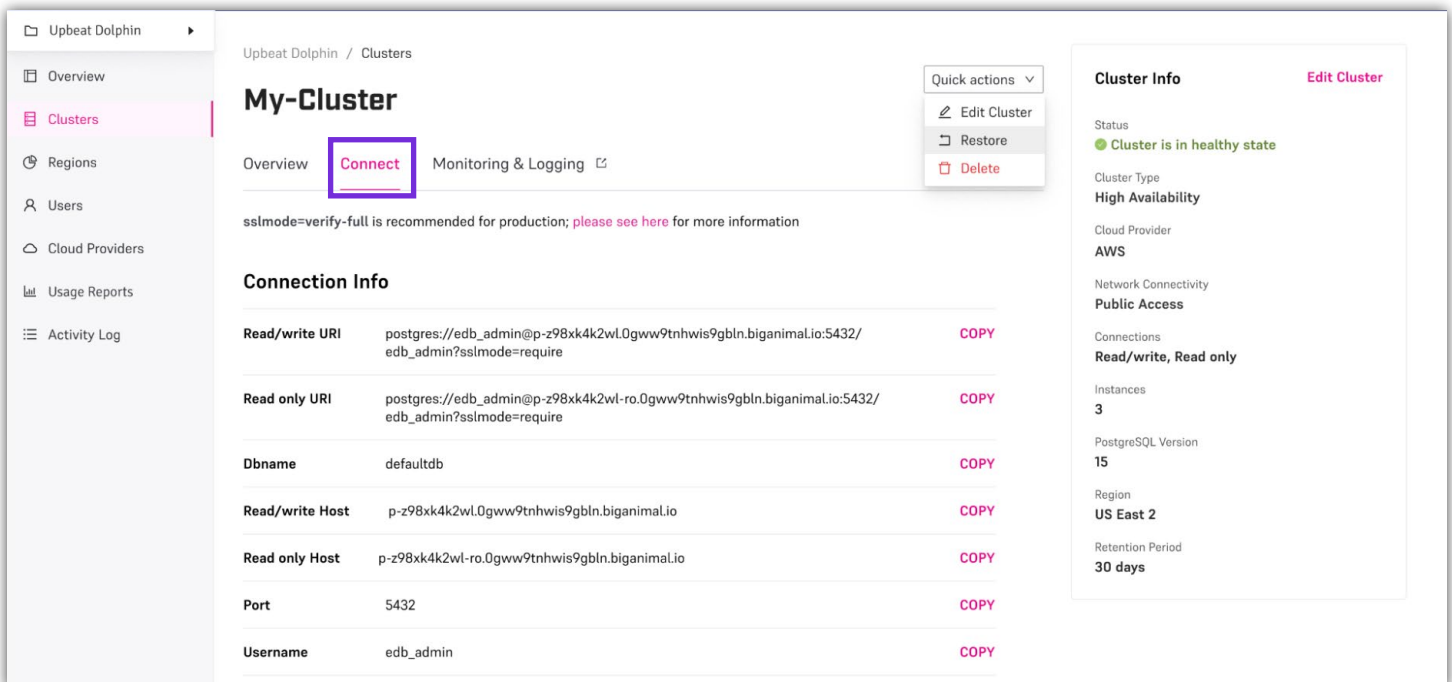
Now, feel free to connect to an application and run some queries. Follow the documentation to [get your cluster connected](#) or follow along with our [demonstration of Oracle compatibility](#).

### 1. Select your cluster to get to the Overview page and see current cluster state, activity, and configuration.



The screenshot shows the 'My-Cluster' overview page. The 'Overview' tab is selected and highlighted with a purple box. The page displays a 'QUICK CONNECT' section with a text input field containing the command: `psql -W postgres://edb_admin@p-c41df9ursfevbm886mn0.upm.edbcloud.io:5432`. Below this is a 'CLUSTER ACTIVITY LOG' section with three entries: 'Nick Stevens deleted this cluster on April 24, 2022 at 12:41 PM ET', 'Staging 2 was updated to Postgres 12.3.6', and 'Sarah Conway created this cluster on May 25, 2022 at 12:24 PM EST.' On the right, the 'Cluster Info' sidebar shows: Status: Cluster is in healthy state; Cluster Type: High Availability; Cloud Provider: AWS; Network Connectivity: Public Access; Connections: Read/write, Read only; Instances: 3; PostgreSQL Version: 15; Region: US East 2; Retention Period: 30 days.

### 2. If additional connection information is helpful, navigate to the "Connect" tab.



The screenshot shows the 'My-Cluster' 'Connect' page. The 'Connect' tab is selected and highlighted with a purple box. A note states: 'sslmode=verify-full is recommended for production; please see here for more information'. Below this is a 'Connection Info' table with the following data:

<b>Read/write URI</b>	postgres://edb_admin@p-z98xk4k2wl.0gww9tnhwis9gbln.biganimal.io:5432/edb_admin?sslmode=require	<a href="#">COPY</a>
<b>Read only URI</b>	postgres://edb_admin@p-z98xk4k2wl-ro.0gww9tnhwis9gbln.biganimal.io:5432/edb_admin?sslmode=require	<a href="#">COPY</a>
<b>Dbname</b>	defaultdb	<a href="#">COPY</a>
<b>Read/write Host</b>	p-z98xk4k2wl.0gww9tnhwis9gbln.biganimal.io	<a href="#">COPY</a>
<b>Read only Host</b>	p-z98xk4k2wl-ro.0gww9tnhwis9gbln.biganimal.io	<a href="#">COPY</a>
<b>Port</b>	5432	<a href="#">COPY</a>
<b>Username</b>	edb_admin	<a href="#">COPY</a>

The 'Cluster Info' sidebar on the right is identical to the previous screenshot, showing the cluster is in a healthy state with 3 instances in the US East 2 region.

3. When you're ready to connect, navigate to the "Overview" tab where you'll find a "Quick Connect" string that can be copied and pasted to get connected quickly in a terminal where psql is installed.

```
sarah.conway@home ~ % psql -W "postgres://edb_admin@p-95jzkamtdi.ow1dadh8xjn7ii0y.biganimal.io:5432/edb_admin?sslmode=require"
Password:
psql (15.1 (Homebrew), server 15.3 (Debian 15.3-1.pgdg100+1))
SSL connection (protocol: TLSv1.3, cipher: TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384, compression: off)
Type "help" for help.

edb_admin=> █
```

## Things to try

### - Create a new database

We're going to create some sample math data, so we're going to create a database called **math**. We could use the default **edb\_admin** database, but best practice is to isolate data.

1. Create a new role called **math**.

```
edb_admin=> CREATE USER math WITH PASSWORD 'ba_selfservice_demo';
CREATE ROLE
```

2. Grant the **math** role to **edb\_admin**.

```
edb_admin=> GRANT math TO edb_admin;
GRANT ROLE
```

3. Create a new **math** database.

```
edb_admin=> CREATE DATABASE math WITH OWNER math;
CREATE DATABASE
```

4. Connect to the **math** database. You're prompted for the **edb\_admin** password.

```
edb_admin=> \connect math
Password:
psql (15.1 (Homebrew), server 15.3 (Debian 15.3-1.pgdg100+1))
SSL connection (protocol: TLSv1.3, cipher: TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384, compression: off)
You are now connected to database "math" as user "edb_admin".
math=> █
```

If you'd like to copy-and-paste code snippets as you follow along, navigate to the [EDB Docs Quick start for BigAnimal](#).

## - Populate a table and query it

We're going to use temporary tables to calculate prime numbers using a [Sieve of Eratosthenes](#).

1. Create a table for storing prime numbers called **primes**.

```
math=> CREATE TABLE primes (  
math(> num INTEGER,  
math(> PRIMARY KEY (num)  
math(> );  
CREATE TABLE
```

2. Populate the table with all prime numbers up to 1000. (This code is based on code from David Fetter.)

```
-- Based on https://wiki.postgresql.org/wiki/Sieve_of_Eratosthenes  
  
WITH RECURSIVE  
t0(m) AS (  
VALUES(1000)  
),  
t1(n) AS (  
VALUES(2)  
UNION ALL  
SELECT n+1 FROM t1 WHERE n < (SELECT m FROM t0)  
),  
t2 (n, i) AS (  
SELECT 2*n, 2  
FROM t1 WHERE 2*n <= (SELECT m FROM t0)  
UNION ALL  
(  
WITH t3(k) AS (  
SELECT max(i) OVER () + 1 FROM t2  
),  
t4(k) AS (  
SELECT DISTINCT k FROM t3  
)  
SELECT k*n, k  
FROM  
t1  
CROSS JOIN  
t4  
WHERE k*k <= (SELECT m FROM t0)  
)  
)  
INSERT INTO primes (  
SELECT n FROM t1 EXCEPT  
SELECT n FROM t2  
ORDER BY 1  
)  
);
```

3. Select the largest prime number less than 1000.

```
math=> SELECT MAX(num)  
math-> FROM primes  
math-> WHERE num < 1000;
```

## About BigAnimal

It's time to propel your business forward and do more with one of the most important, strategic parts of your workload—the database. Whether migrating off of Oracle databases or building new Postgres applications in the cloud, your data workloads are too important to leave to generalists.

Take advantage of the ability to run the same Postgres in AWS, Azure, and GCP. Get the control and flexibility you need, from geo-distributed workloads to super-user access. Availability options are accessible for all environments, from development to always-on business critical applications with 99.99% availability requirements. You're even able to minimize risk and migrate quickly with BigAnimal's native compatibility for Oracle when deploying EDB's PostgreSQL Advanced Server.

Stop wasting valuable time on provisioning, maintenance, back-ups, and worrying about continuous availability. Focus on what matters most for your business and let the EDB experts who help build PostgreSQL take care of your database, no matter where you deploy.

**Contact EDB Sales to learn more**







# Get Started with BigAnimal: Create an account and start building with \$300 in free credits

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