

# **Gshp2pgsql Manual**

**Steffen Macke**

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# General

## 1. Introduction

Gshp2pgsql provides a graphical interface to upload shapefiles to PostGIS databases.

*Gshp2pgsql* is available from <http://polylinie.de/gshp2pgsql/>. It is free software released under the terms of the GPL license - the full source code is available (Open Source).

This manual describes *Gshp2pgsql* version 0.4.1.

### 1.1. What's New?

A summary of changes in the different versions of the AV PostGIS Extension.

#### 1.1.1. Version 0.4.1

Bug fix on Windows: Include missing **gspawn-win32-helper**.

openSUSE RPM have been added.

#### 1.1.2. Version 0.4.0

The interface has been translated to German.

Bug fixes and robustness improvements.

The Windows installer now comes with a bundled GTK+ version. This avoids compatibility problems and makes the installation easier.

Library updates: GTK 2.14.2, PostgreSQL 8.3.4, PostGIS 1.3.3.

For developers: Improved build process using autotools.

#### 1.1.3. Version 0.3.0

Bugfix: Host and port are now passed to psql.

#### 1.1.4. Version 0.2.0

Added the possibility to specify the shapefile name on the commandline and the Windows Explorer context menu for shapefiles.

#### 1.1.5. Version 0.1.0

- The first public release.

## 2. Requirements

GTK+ version 2.6 or higher is required in order to use the *Gshp2pgsql*. The Windows installer includes GTK+.

A PostgreSQL database with the PostGIS extension is required.

## 3. Installation

How to install *Gshp2pgsql*.

## **3.1. Installation Using the Installer**

How to install the *Gshp2pgsql* using the installer (on Windows).

Download the installer and execute it.

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# Reference

## 1. Usage

Run the program.

Fill in the required information.

Click on the OK button.

Review the message.

### Caution

Gshp2pgsql will create a new file with the same base name as the shapefile and the extension ".sql".

### 1.1. Additional Scripts

Gshp2pgsql allows to run SQL scripts before and after the shapefile is loaded.

### Tip

This allows e.g. to drop views that depend on a table that will be recreated by the loader and recreate the views immediately after the data was loaded.

## 2. Configuration

### 2.1. Environment Variables

A number of standard PostgreSQL environment variables are used by Gshp2pgsql, if they are set:

PGPASSWORD  
PGHOST  
PGPORT  
PGDATABASE  
PGUSER

## 3. Windows Explorer Integration

The installer installs a Windows Explorer context menu that allows to load shapefiles (\*.shp) to PostGIS.

To use this functionality, do the following:

1. Open the Windows Explorer
2. Click with the right mouse button on a shapefile.
3. Select Load to PostGIS from the context menu.

## 4. Commandline Usage

Gshp2pgsql accepts the shapefile name as a commandline argument.

`gshp2pgsql [shapefile]`

## 5. Troubleshooting

Please report problems through the AVPGCon trackers.

Please include the full contents of the three output fields (commandline, output, errors).

## 6. Security

### Caution

Gshp2pgsql stores the password temporarily in an environment variable. If this is not secure enough for you, please do not use Gshp2pgsql.

## 7. Development

The version number shall be derived from the packaged PostGIS version plus an additional digit for the actual extension.

PostgreSQL releases with security fixes trigger new Gshp2pgsql releases.

### 7.1. Release Process

Update the version number in `build.xml`, `installer/win32/gshp2pgsql.nsi` and `doc/en/gshp2pgsql.xml`.

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