

A quick-reference guide for common dbt commands.

Command Line Interface

- dbt run: runs all models
- dbt run --select model_name: runs a specific model
- dbt run --select +model_name / model_name+ : runs upstream/downstream dependencies
- dbt test: runs all tests
- dbt build: run + test + seed + snapshot in one command
- dbt compile: compiles SQL without executing
- dbt debug: checks your connection and project setup
- dbt docs generate: builds docs
- dbt docs serve: opens docs site
- dbt seed: loads CSV files from the seeds folder
- dbt snapshot: runs snapshots (SCD Type 2)
- dbt deps: installs packages from packages.yml
- dbt source freshness: checks how stale your source data is

Jinja & Ref/Source

- {{ ref('model_name') }}: reference another model
- {{ source('schema', 'table') }}: reference a raw source
- {{ config(materialized='incremental') }}: inline config
- {{ this }}: current model reference (used in incrementals)
- is_incremental() macro pattern

Project Structure

A simple folder tree:

- models/
- seeds/
- tests/
- macros/
- snapshots/
- analyses/

Schema Tests

Built-in generic tests:

- unique
- not_null
- accepted_values
- relationships