

Family Codes

AutoCAD Electrical 2019

Components used in AutoCAD® Electrical are named specifically around family codes and these *Family Codes* correspond to the table names found in the default_cat.mdb database file. When you select to assign a part number, AutoCAD® Electrical looks at the 2nd and 3rd character in the symbol's file name and opens the associated catalogue database table. A contactor coil, as an example, has a symbol block name of VMS1 or HMS1 and therefore will look up the MS table when is selected.

The default electrical family tables are as follows:

FAMILY ↕	DESC ▼
AM	Ammeters
AN	Buzzers, horns, bells
CO	Connectors/pins
CA	Capacitors
CB	Circuit breakers
CR	Control relays
DI	DIN rails
DN	Device networks
DR	Drives
DS	Disconnect switches
DV	
EN	Enclosures/hardware
FM	Frequency meters
FS	Flow sensors
FU	Fuses
LR	Latching relays
LS	Limit switches
LT	Lights, pilot lights
MISC	Miscellaneous
MO	Motors
MS	Motor starters/contactors
NP	Nameplates
OL	Overloads
PB	Push buttons
PE	Photo switches
PLCIO	Programmable logic controllers
PM	Power meters

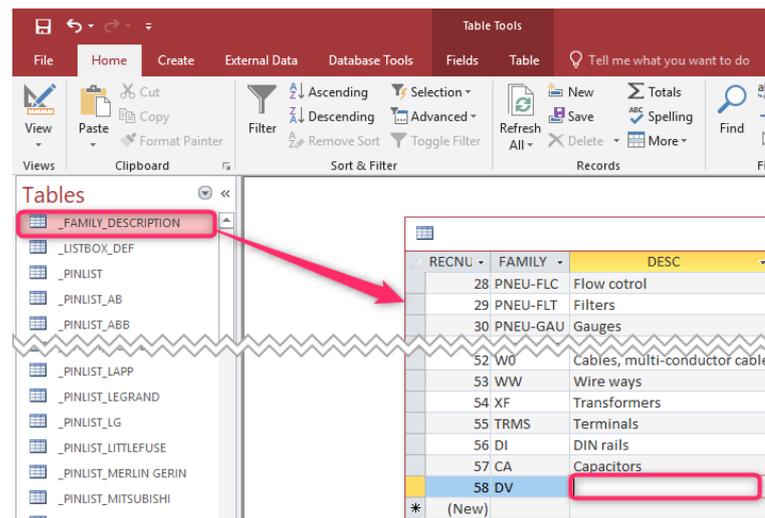
PS	Pressure switches
PW	Power supplies
PX	Proximity switches
RE	Resistors
SS	Selector switches
SU	Surge suppressors
SW	Toggle switches
TD	Timer relays
TRMS	Terminals
TS	Temperature switches
VM	Volt meters
WO	Cables, multi-conductor cables
WW	Wire ways
XF	Transformers

New tables can be added easily. Please see the following *Tips & Tricks*:

[Adding a Table to the Catalogue Database](#)

Existing table descriptions can be altered by editing the default_cat.mdb using Microsoft® Access®. Open the file and edit the `_FAMILY_DESCRIPTION` table.

Either right click on the table >  `Open` or double left click on the table.



As an example, you may wish to edit the description for the table DV. Locate DV in the FAMILY column and enter a description in the DESC column.

 Save the changes

Although a new family can be added into the `_FAMILY_DESCRIPTION` table within Microsoft® Access®, it doesn't create the necessary new table for the family. As an example, for the family of CR, there is also a table within the default_cat.mdb file called CR. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that you add new tables as [described previously](#)