

What fields and columns can be used in an Excel Bill of Materials template?

When creating a Bill of Materials template in Excel, a combination of Fields and Columns may be used to specify the desired layout. Several example templates are provided with Altium Designer, in the **Templates** folder of the main installation. A full list of available fields is provided below:

Fields

Fields provide project-level information. These are not usually attached to each item in the BOM, but are often used in the header of the document. Fields are used in the format:

Field=FieldName

The available fields are:

Currency	DataSourceFileName
DataSourceFullPath	GeneratorDescription
GeneratorName	OutputName
OutputType	ProductionQuantity
ProjectFileName	ProjectFullPath
ReportDate	ReportDateTime
ReportTime	Title
TotalQuantity	VariantName

Columns

Columns provide information that is supplied on a per-component basis, and would usually appear on each line in the BOM. Columns are used in the format:

Column=ColumnName

Column information can be taken from several sources, including custom parameters added to components, PCB data, and Supplier data. These are discussed separately below.

Default Parameters

These columns are provided for all components:

Comment	ComponentKind
Description	Designator

DesignItemId	Footprint
LibRef	LogicalDesignator
PartType	PhysicalPath
Quantity	UniqueldName
UniqueldPath	

Document Parameters

These parameters are also available for all components by default. They are taken from the schematic document containing the component:

Address1	Address2
Address3	Address4
ApprovedBy	Author
CheckedBy	CompanyName
ConfigurationParameters	CurrentDate
CurrentTime	Date
DocumentFullPathAndName	DocumentName
DocumentNumber	DrawnBy
Engineer	ImagePath
Index	ModifiedDate
Organization	Revision
Rule	SheetNumber
SheetTotal	Time

PCB Parameters

Pick and Place information can also be included from the PCB. In order to use these columns, the checkbox **Include Parameters From PCB** must be ticked in the BOM Configuration dialog.

Center-X(Mil)	Center-X(mm)
Center-Y(Mil)	Center-Y(mm)
Layer	Pad-X(Mil)
Pad-X(mm)	Pad-Y(Mil)
Pad-Y(mm)	Ref-X(Mil)
Ref-X(mm)	Ref-Y(Mil)
Ref-Y(mm)	Rotation

Supplier Data

In Altium Designer Winter 08 and Summer 09, it is possible to retrieve online data from suppliers, and feed that into the BOM. Note that these are updated live, and are retrieved when the BOM is generated. Multiple suppliers can be set up for each component. In the table below, these have been described as *Supplier Info x* - replace x with the appropriate number.

Manufacturer x	Manufacturer Part Number x
Supplier x	Supplier Currency x
Supplier Order Qty x	Supplier Part Number x
Supplier Stock x	Supplier Subtotal x
Supplier Unit Price x	

Custom Parameters

Extra information can also be imported from a database library, or from parameters added to components by the user. In these cases, simply use the parameter name as the column name.