

FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions

- Q.** I have created my drawing and tried to create a Net List, but I did not know about Package Attributes. The manual does not explain how to add these attributes to the symbols on the drawing I have made. It says click ADD, but in what? The package attributes would be different for each component you place on the drawing but I can't see how you add these attributes.

A. After the symbol is placed on the schematic select it and a 'xxx Tool Options' window opens. In this there is a list of the current parameters and their values. If a 'Package' parameter is not present click the 'Add' button at the bottom. This will put a line in which reads 'Other Yes ...'.

Change 'Other' to 'Package' and '...' to the name of the footprint for that symbol to use in the layout. You also have the option whether to display it or not.

The process is similar for library symbols:

In the Library editor you can edit the 'Symbol Properties' to change or insert a package definition. If you have the correct 'Package' definition in the library symbol it will carry over to the schematic automatically.

The same 'Package' definition may be used for several different symbols and there may also be similar symbols with different 'Package' definitions. You have to decide what package you will use for the symbol. Of course you can change your mind at any stage so long as what you end up with works.

Bear in mind that the TinyCAD pin numbers used must match the pin numbers in the footprint referenced by the 'Package' parameter. That is how things are connected.

Please read the User's Manual section 'Help/Get more from TinyCAD/Exporting to PCB programs'.

- Q.** How do I enter a pin name or other text if I want a bar over the text to signify the NOT function?

A. For each letter of the text string that you want to be shown with a bar over it, enter the non-shifted version of the tilda character (``) before the letter that you want to have an overbar appearance. This little used character is also known as the grave accent, from the Latin word “gravis”, meaning heavy. By requiring a special character for each overbar character, you gain the possibility of specifying mixed names such as “UP/DOWN”. For this particular name, you would enter “UP/D`O`W`N”. This special character, on English language keyboards, is usually located near the upper left hand corner of a full keyboard, underneath the ESC key. It is also usually on the same key as the tilda character (~). On European keyboards, it will most likely be in a different location or not present on a key directly at all. You must use the <Alt> numeric keypad method (<Alt> 096). If any user wants to email us and let us know where it is located in other languages, we will add it to this answer for the convenience of all of our users.

- Q.** When I create a new symbol and I want to save it to my Lib it does not allow me to change the name when I'm clicking on add name. How do I give it the name that I want?

A. At some point you should see the 'Update Library Symbol' window. In this window there is a 'Name' parameter. (Right hand panel). If you change the 'New Symbol' text to be the name of your new symbol it will get saved in the selected library under that name when you click '[Store]'. You can add a 'Name' parameter with the '[Add]' button but you can't use that, it has to be the default one.

If you edit a symbol and change its 'Name' parameter it does not create a copy when you '[Store]' it, just the symbol name changes.

If you want to add a modified version of symbol XXX, select the symbol in the library list, <right click> and use 'Duplicate' to create a 'Copy of XXX'. Select that and edit the 'Name' parameter text in it.

The 'Add Name' button creates an alias for the current symbol which can then have a different set of properties but the same graphic. Select the symbol name in the left column to access its properties in the right panel. Both alias names will show in the schematic selection list.