## ## Introduction

This guide will teach you how to create a category and then assign it a product. Categories are used to present, sort, and segment products in an organized way. Categories can also be used to trigger approvals or promotions.

<div class="note"><strong>04/01/2017:</strong> We have created a new guide outlining the New Catalog Visibility Rules. Please refer to this guide to learn what has been updated when creating your catalog.</div>

<div class="note"><strong>04/01/2017:</strong> Seller-side product lists (`v1/products`) can now be filtered on `CatalogID` and `CategoryID` (`CategoryID` is unique only within a Catalog, so you must specify both in order to filter on Category). Buyer-side product lists (`v1/me/products`) that specify `CategoryID` can also specify depth, which can be an integer 1 or greater (depth=1 means products directly assigned to category) or all. Default is all.

</div>

## Prerequisites

* [Create and Assign a Product](https://documentation.ordercloud.io/use-case-guides/product-catalog-management/create-and-assign-a-product)
* [Make an Assignment](https://documentation.ordercloud.io/use-case-guides/buyer-and-seller-organization-management/make-an-assignment)

## 1. Create a Category

<div class=”api-reference”>API Reference: [Create a Category](https://documentation.ordercloud.io/api-reference#Categories\_Create)</div>

```

POST https://api.ordercloud.io/v1/catalogs/{catalogID}/categories HTTP/1.1  
Authentication: Bearer put\_access\_token\_here  
Content-Type: application/json

{  
 "ID": "OfficeSuppliesID",  
 "Name": "Office Supplies",  
 "Description": "This category will contain our products ",  
 "xp": null,  
 "ListOrder": 1,  
 "Active": true,  
 "ParentID": null  
}

```

`CatalogID` (route parameter) defines which catalog a category is in. Currently, a category can only belong to one catalog.

`ParentID` is the parameter that allows you to define a [sub category structure](https://documentation.ordercloud.io/use-case-guides/product-catalog-management/create-and-assign-a-sub-category). Because this is a top-level category, you can leave this parameter as null.

`ListOrder` is an optional parameter that controls the order that the categories are returned when you list them. If you want a product to be listed before another, make sure that the list order is set lower than the other.

`Active` is a boolean that controls if the category is actually displayed to the assigned party. For example, you might have a holiday or other time-sensitive category that is only live to the user during particular times, and the rest of the year, it would be inactive or `”Active” : false`.

<div class="note">A product can live in multiple categories.</div>

## ## 2. Assign the Product to the Category

<div class=”api-reference”>API Reference: [Save Product Assignment](https://documentation.ordercloud.io/api-reference#Categories\_SaveProductAssignment)</div>

```

POST https://api.ordercloud.io/v1/catalogs/{catalogID}/categories/productassignments HTTP/1.1  
Authentication: Bearer put\_access\_token\_here  
Content-Type: application/json  
  
{  
 "CategoryID": "OfficeSuppliesID",  
 "ProductID": "productX”,  
 "ListOrder": 1  
}

```

## ## 3. Assign Category to Party

<div class=”api-reference”>API Reference: [Save Category Assignment](<https://documentation.ordercloud.io/api-reference#Categories_SaveAssignment>)</div>

```

POST https://api.ordercloud.io/v1/catalogs/{catalogID}/categories/assignments HTTP/1.1  
Authentication: Bearer put\_access\_token\_here  
Content-Type: application/json  
  
{  
 "CategoryID": "OfficeSuppliesID",  
 "BuyerID": "",  
 "UserID": "",  
 "UserGroupID": ""  
}

```

<div class=”note”>When you make this assignment, you must include the party or parties you want to assign the category to. Read more about Assignment best practices [here](https://documentation.ordercloud.io/use-case-guides/buyer-and-seller-organization-management/make-an-assignment)</div>

## Conclusion

You have now created a top-level category, placed a product in the category, and assigned the category to the proper party. To further segment your products, you can use [sub-categories](https://documentation.ordercloud.io/use-case-guides/buyer-and-seller-organization-management/create-and-assign-a-sub-category).