

Using the Content Center, Part 3



This is the third in a set of three Skill Builders which replace the Content Center tutorial previously supplied with the Inventor software. In this Skill Builder, you will learn to use the search capabilities of Content Center. In the first Skill Builder, you will learn to place and size components from the Content Center. In the second Skill Builder you will learn how to manage Content Center libraries. These three Skill Builders may be completed in any order.

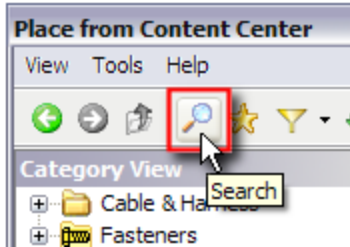
Expected completion time: **10 minutes.**

Use with: **Autodesk® Inventor® 2009.**

The Content Center provides functionality to access and utilize standard parts and features contained in content libraries. In the following exercises, you return to the Content Center and learn how to use the Search, Favorites, History, and Filters tools to locate and customize the organization of content.

Using Quick Search

1. If Autodesk Inventor is not running: launch Inventor (otherwise return to the active Autodesk Inventor session).
2. Click **File > Projects.**
3. With no files open, select **tutorial_files** as your active project.
4. **Create** a new assembly.
5. **Click** the Place Component from Content Center tool button.
6. From the Place from Content Center dialog, click the **Search** tool (the Quick Search panel displays).



7. In the Search For field, type *needle*.
8. Click **Search Now** (bearings with “needle” contained in their name, description or part number in your available libraries are displayed).

Check Family Properties

You can check a family to see typical usage of the Name, Description, and Part Number properties.

1. Press the **Alt** key, and then double-click any of the needle bearing families.
2. Select the **Family Info** tab.
3. **Note** the Name and Description fields.
4. Click the **Table View** tab.
5. Select **All Columns** on the Display menu.
6. **Scroll** to the right to review the Part Number column entries.
7. Click **Cancel**.

Using Advanced Search

1. Click the **Advanced Search** button.
2. Select the **Name** and **Description** check boxes.
3. Type *iso* in the Name field.
4. Type *needle* in the Description field.
5. Click the **Categories** button next to the Look In field.
6. Click the “+” to the left of the **Shaft Parts** node.
7. Select **Bearings**.
8. Click **OK**.
9. Click **Search Now** (the ISO needle bearing families display in the Search Result field).
10. Click **Move to Content Center** to make the search results available for placement.

A More Comprehensive Advanced Search

1. Click the **Advanced Search** button.
2. Click the **Categories** button next to the Look In field.
3. Click the “+” to the left of the **Shaft Parts** node.
4. Click in the select box next to **Bearings**.
5. Click **OK**.
6. Select the **Advanced** tab.
7. From the Parameter menu, select **Outer Diameter**.

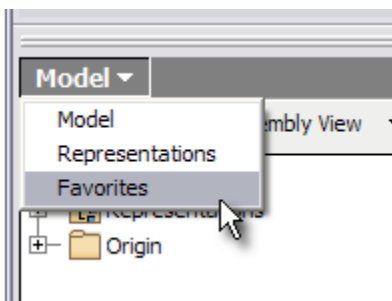
8. From the Condition menu, select *Equal or Less Than*.
9. In the Value field, type *100 mm*.
10. Click the *Add To List* button.
11. Click *Search Now* (all bearings that match the criteria display).
12. Click the *Move to Content Center* button to make the search results available for placement.

Start Using Favorites

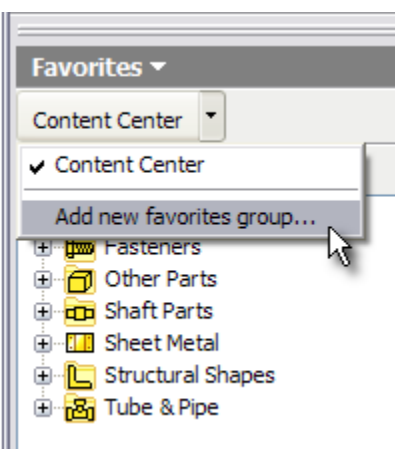
In your regular workflow, it is likely that you frequently place content from certain families. You can use **Favorites** to organize content for quick access in a way that makes sense for your workflows.

You access Favorites through the Content Center dialog box or from the Autodesk Inventor browser panel. In this exercise, you work with Favorites in the browser panel.

1. Open a new assembly.
2. On the assembly browser panel, click **Model** to display the possible menu selections.
3. Click *Favorites* on the displayed menu.

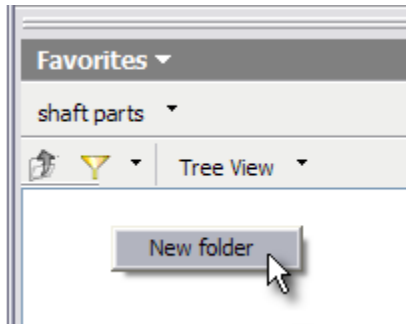


4. Click *Content Center* (located just below Favorites).
5. Select *Add new favorites group*.



6. Name the group *shaft parts*.

7. Click **OK**.
8. In the blank space of the browser panel, right-click and select **New Folder**.



9. Name the folder **Needle Bearings**.
10. Click **OK**.
11. Click the **Place from Content Center** tool on the assembly tool panel.
12. Click the **Search** tool in the Content Center dialog.
13. In the Search For field of the Quick Search bar, type **iso 3030**.
14. Click **Search Now**.
15. Click and drag the **ISO 3030** family from the Search Results pane of the Content Center dialog into the Needle Bearings folder in the Favorites browser panel.
16. In the browser panel, click the “+” to the left of the Needle bearing folder to expand the node and display the just added ISO 3030 family.
17. In the browser panel, click to select the **ISO 3030** family.
18. Click and drag the selected family into the graphics window.
19. Select any member in the Size Designation list.
20. Click **OK**.



21. Press **Esc** to dismiss placement of a second occurrence.

Organize Favorites

1. In the Favorites browser, **right-click** the Needle Bearings folder.
2. Select **New folder**.

3. Type **11C** in the Name field of the Item Name dialog.
4. Click **OK** to name the new favorites folder and dismiss the dialog (the 11C folder is created as a child of the Needle Bearings folder).
5. Click the **Place from Content Center** tool on the assembly tool panel.
6. Press the **Alt** key and double-click the **ISO 3030** family in the Search Results panel.
7. In the Family dialog box, right-click the **11C-14x18x8** member.
8. Select **Add To Favorites** from the context menu.
9. The **11C-14x18x8** bearing is added to the favorites browser at the same level as the Needle Bearings folder.
10. Click the **11C-14x18x8** bearing so that it highlights.
11. Click and drag the **11C-14x18x8** bearing into the 11C folder under the Needle Bearing folder.

Drag the **11C-14x18x8** member from the 11C folder in the browser Favorites panel into the graphics window. The program inserts the member into the assembly document.



History

History is another convenient feature you can use to quickly access content.

1. Click the **Place from Content Center** tool on the assembly tool panel.
2. Select the **History** node in the Category View panel (located to the right of the Filter button).
3. Families you accessed earlier are displayed.

When accessing content through the History, Favorites, and Search functions, you may need to determine the source directory for a given family.

4. In the History panel, **right-click** a family.
5. Select **Navigate To Category** from the context menu.
6. The Category View tree expands, as necessary, and the source category is highlighted. The family is highlighted in the right-hand panel.

Use the same method for families listed in the Favorites and Search Results panels.

Filters

Use the Filters function to customize your view of the content. You can access Filters in the Content Center dialog box, or from the Favorites browser panel.

You can create custom filters as needed:

1. From the Filters menu in the Content Center dialog box, select **Add/Edit Filters**.
2. In the Filters dialog, click the **Add** button.
3. Type **ISO/GB Shoulder** to name your new filter.
4. Press **Enter**, to set the name.
5. In the Manufacturers field remove the check mark next to **Parker** and **PENN**, if your installation of the Content Center contains these libraries.
6. In the Standard field, select only **ISO** and **GB** (if your installation of the Content Center contains these libraries).
7. Select the **Categories** tab.
8. Clear the check mark next to each of the top-level categories.
9. Select the **Shoulder** category, nested under **Fasteners > Bolts > Socket Head**.
10. Click **OK**.

The custom filter **ISO/GB Shoulder** is automatically set as the active filter and the Category View tree is filtered according to the parameters you specified in this custom filter.

Summary

This Skill Builder provided exercises to help you understand the search, favorites and history capabilities of Content Center. You were able to:

- Use the Quick Search capability to do a simple search based on an input text string
- Review families to see where property fields store information which may be used in a search
- Use Advanced Search capabilities to create a search which searched against a number of properties simultaneously
- Use an Advanced Search that searched for components that fell within a specific range of acceptable parameters
- Create a new category of Content Center favorites
- Create an organized structure of favorite folders populated with families and individual favorite components
- Access a history of Content Center use allowing easy retrieval of recently placed content that may not have been stored as a favorite
- Use the Navigate To Category capability to quickly move from a previous selection (Favorite, History or Search Result) to the family category where a selection resides in the Content Center
- Set up and use Filters that allowed you to view only those portions of the attached libraries of interest to you

What Next?

As mentioned when you began, this Skill Builder is one of three that deal with using the Content Center. You may decide to complete each of the additional Skill Builders to get a better understanding of how to use Content Center components in assembly files or administer aspects of your Content Center by creating read/write libraries, modifying or publishing content to libraries.

You may also want to simply become more familiar with the variety of parts contained in your Content Center libraries by browsing the categories and families listed in the Content Center dialog or by reading the on-line help concepts that discuss these topics.

This completes this Skill Builder.