

# TS589C

## Importing Microsoft Access tables to SAS Datasets

There are several ways to import Microsoft Access tables into SAS.  
They are as follows:

### 1) Using SAS/ACCESS to ODBC:

- 1) SAS/CORE, SAS/BASE and SAS/ACCESS interface to ODBC licensed and installed at your site.
- 2) The Microsoft Access ODBC driver must be installed and configured on your PC.
- 3) Use the following code to read the Microsoft Access file into a SAS dataset.

```
Libname sasuser 'c:\foo';

Proc SQL;
Connect to ODBC (prompt);
Create table sasuser.TEST
As select * from connection to ODBC
(select * from tablename);
disconnect from odbc;
quit;
```

- 'Prompt' will activate a pop-up window where you can choose your data source name. Alternatively, you can use 'DSN=' in the parenthesis and specify your data source name.
- 'sasuser.TEST' is the name of the SAS dataset you will create from this query.
- 'tablename' must be the specific unit of data that we are reading. For Microsoft Access the DSN references the database(.MDB file), and the 'tablename' refers to the table in the database.

### 2) Using SAS/ACCESS to PC File Formats:

SAS/Core, SAS/BASE and SAS/ACCESS Interface to PC File Formats must be licensed and installed at your site.

#### Using a programmatic method:

- 1) Save the Microsoft Access file as a Microsoft Excel 5.0/95 Workbook file. Excel97 format Is currently not supported.

#### \*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

Most Microsoft Access files are too big to fit into a Microsoft Excel file, in which case, be Aware that when you try to save the file as a Microsoft Excel file it will be truncated without an error message. The column limit in Excel 5.0 is 256, and the row limit is 16,384.

\*\*\*\*\*

- 2) Use the following code:

```
Proc Access dbms=xls;
Create sasuser.sales.access;
Path='c:\sales.xls';
Worksheet='sheet1';
```

```

/* The following 4 statements are recommended. */
scantype=yes; /* Scans entire column to determine variable type. */
getnames=yes; /* Reads first row for column names. */
assign=yes; /* Assigns SAS variables the names read above. */
mixed=yes; /* Allows numeric-to-character comparison in mixed data columns. */
create sasuser.sales.view;
select all;
Run;

Data sasuser.new;
Set sasuser.sales;
Run;

```

### Using the Import Wizard:

(The Import Wizard is only available in SAS 6.12 or later.)

- 1) Save the file as Excel 5.0/95 workbook.
- 2) Use the following directions to use the Import wizard.
  - A) Click **File** → **Import**
  - B) Select **Excel**(and the version you are trying to read) from the list of file types.
  - C) Click **NEXT**.
  - D) Specify the full path to the Excel file you are trying to import into a SAS dataset.
  - E) Click **NEXT**.
  - F) Pick the Library where you want the dataset to reside.  
+If library is not listed, you will have to issue a libname statement before using the Import Wizard.
  - G) Name the dataset. Use the list of datasets which reside in that library to overwrite an existing SAS dataset; or type in a new data set name.
  - H) Click **FINISH**.

### 3) Using the Data Step:

If you do not have SAS/ACCESS Interface to PC File Formats or SAS/ACCESS Interface to ODBC licensed and installed at your site, another option to import the Microsoft Access file would be with the Data Step. This will require that you create A valid input statement to match the layout of the column ordering and types.

- 1) SAS/CORE and SAS/BASE must be licensed and installed at your site.
- 2) Save the Microsoft Access file as a .CSV file(comma separate file).
- 3) Use the following code to read the .CSV file into sas.

```

Filename house 'c:\house.csv';

Data sasuser.house;
Infile house dlm=', ' missover;
Input var1 var2 var3 var4;
Run;

```

### 4) Using Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE):

If you do not have SAS/ACCESS to Interface PC File Formats or SAS/Access Interface ODBC licensed and installed at your site, another option to import the Microsoft Access file would be with the DDE facility. DDE is similar to the

Datastep method above and requires that an input statement be written to match the layout of your Excel columns.

- 1) SAS/CORE and SAS/BASE must be licensed and installed at your site.
- 2) Invoke Microsoft Access and open the Microsoft Access file you wish to import.
- 3) Use the following code to read in the Microsoft Access file:

```
Filename test dde 'Msaccess|D:\access\nwind.mdb;Table Catagories!all';
```

```
Data category;
```

```
Length catid catname picture $20 descrp $60;
```

```
Infile msaccess dlm='09'x notab dsd missover trunccover firstobs=2;
```

```
Input catid $ catname $ descrp $ picture $;
```

```
Run;
```

\*\*\*Reference the "SAS Companion for the Microsoft Windows Environment" or the Tech Support document "TS325" for examples of using this method.