KeyCreator Lesson KC4634

Using AutoLabel

In this exercise we'll review the use of the powerful AutoLabel Function that automatically annotates standard features created in 2 dimensional drawings or features in layouts created from solids with standard features. This is another powerful KeyCreator tool that is often overlooked by users.





We'll start with a new file in View 1. (The Top View.)

Click on the CREATE RECTANGLE BY WIDTH HEIGHT Icon. Select any anchor option.

Type 3 for the Width and 0.75 for the Height. Using the Cursor Option, click anywhere on the screen to place the feature.

Next, click on the COUNTERBORED HOLE Icon.

A large Dialog Box appears.





Select the ¼ size hole, Close Fit, Through Type and enter 0.75 for the Depth. Select the Side Representation and hit the ENTER Key.

Using the CtrMid Option, click on the top, edge of the rectangle. As you move the cursor, the ghost counter-bore rotates.

Click on the Angle Button on the Conversation Bar. Type 270 and hit the ENTER Key. Escape from the function.

Your screen should look like this:





Now, click on the AUTO LABEL Icon.

Click on the counter-bore and then move the cursor, clicking to place the text.



Your screen should look like this:

Now, we just used a default standard to label this counter-bored hole. Let's suppose that you just want a simple callout style that looks like this:

0.250 DIA THRU HOLE 0.437 DIA x 0.250 DP C'BORE

We can do that easily by first creating an auto label style that represents what we want and then using that style whenever we auto label a counter-bored hole.



- 1. You select the type of feature that you want to label. In this case, we selected Cbore.
- 2. You select a Std. By default, Std 1 is shown right now. If you click on the New Button, you can enter a name for a new standard. (I'm going to call mine "STDMine1.")
- 3. The Variables Field shows the data available for this particular feature.
- 4. Notice the field to the right shows the current format. It is built from the variables.
- 5. Text is also added from the text box as required.
- 6. Special symbols can be added by clicking on them in the bottom palette.

First, click on the AUTO LABEL FORMAT Icon.

A Dialog Box appears. Building a new label format is quite easy once you understand the procedure.



So let's say we want to make our counter-bored hole labels follow this format:



0.250 DIA THRU HOLE 0.437 DIA x 0.250 DP C'BORE

In the Dialog Box, with the CBORE Type selected, click on the NEW Button. A small Dialog Box appears. Type "STDMine1" and click on the OK Button.

Notice that this now appears in the STD Field and the right field is now empty.

Now, the first part of our desired label format is the hole diameter.

Click on the **\$DRILLDIA** variable in the left field and it appears in the label field to the right.





Now, we want to use the phrase "DIA THRU HOLE" next on the same line so click on the TEXT Field, type "DIA THRU HOLE." Then, click on the INSERT Button.

This completes the first line of our note, so we would click on the NEW LINE Symbol to start the second line.





The note field in the Dialog Box should now look like this:

Notice that the insertion cursor is positioned to start the second line.

Next, click on the \$CBDIA Variable and that appears in the note field. Click in the Text Field, type "DIA x " and click on the INSERT Button.





Then, click on the \$CBDEPTH Variable, click in the Text Field, "DP C'BORE" Click on the INSERT Button.

The Text Field should look like this: Click on the OK Button. 

Now, click on the AUTO LABEL Icon.

Click on the counter-bore but before clicking to set the auto label, click on the STD Option on the Conversation Bar.

The Dialog Box appears with a list of all the standards for autolabeling a counter-bore. Select the "STDMine1" that you just created and hit the OK Button. Click to place the text.



Your labeled counter-bore should look like this:



Using Auto Label in Layout Mode

Using Auto Label is just as easy when detailing features in Layout Mode. Let's review how this works.

Start with a new file in View 1. (The Top View.)

Click on the BLOCK Icon. A Dialog Box appears. Using the KeyIn Option, type 3 for the Width, 2 for the Length, and 1 for the Height.

Using the Cursor Option, click anywhere on the screen.





Then,	switch	to the	Isometric	View.	(View	7.)
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Click on the CONSTRUCTION PLANE Icon.

Move the cursor over the top face of the block and click on it when it highlights.



Now, click on the COUNTERBORED HOLE Icon.

A Dialog Box appears.

Select the same ¼ inch hole again with the Through Option and Close Fit.

This time, click on the SOLID Option. And hit the ENTER Key.





Click on the Two Pos Option on the Conversation Bar. Then, using the CtrMid Option, click on the top, front edge and the top, back edge of the block.



You will now have a block with a counterbored hole in the center.

Now, click on the LAYOUT DIALOG Icon.

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A Dialog Box appears.

Create an automatic layout with three views (Top, Front, Right) We don't need a border for purposes of this exercise.



Now, click on the AUTO LABEL Icon.

Click on the counter-bore in the front view on the layout.

Then, move the cursor and click to set the text position.



The label will appear on the drawing.