

Re: Linked Form Not Allowing New Records

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.forms/2006-08/msg01837.html>

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 - *Date:* Mon, 14 Aug 2006 22:00:03 GMT
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Rob wrote:

I have a one to many relationship between two tables: tblCars and tblParts (One car can have many parts). I created a form using the wizard and chose "linked forms" instead of "form with subform" when prompted. The problem I'm having is that when entering new records in the linked form it does not capture the "linked" field from the main form which causes an error message which reads "Index or primary key cannot contain a null value". I know Access is supposed to "autofill" that field but it's not working. What's more frustrating is that it works fine for existing records. I only have a problem during data entry. Any ideas?

No, Access is only supposed to autofill that field if you choose to build a form with a subform. Linked forms do NOT provide that feature. All it does is provide a filter for EXISTING records exactly as you are seeing.

You can solve the problem by setting the DefaultValue property of the second form to a reference of the first form...

=Forms!FirstFormName!LinkingFieldName

That will mean that you can only use the second form when the first is open and if you open the second form, navigate to a new record, and then navigate to a different record on the first form before you fill out the new record on the second form the new record will still have the linking field from the record on the first form when it was originally opened. As you can see the linked form is not as robust as a real subform in this regard. Code can be added to both forms to solve some of these issues.

You can also make the second form modal so that you have to close it before you can go back to the first form and change the record on that.

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