**Junction Tables (Many-to-Many Relationships)**

When you need to establish a many-to-many [relationship](https://www.utteraccess.com/w/index.php?title=Relationship&action=edit) between two groups, the simplest solution is to use a Junction [Table](https://www.utteraccess.com/wiki/Table). A Junction Table (sometimes referred to as a "Bridge Table") is a table that contains references to both groups; bridging them together. For example: A school includes two groups: Students and Classes. One student can attend many classes, and one class can contain many students. Hence, the "many-to-many" relationship between students and classes. Here's how you relate the two groups using a Junction Table:

**tblStudents**
StudentID [[Primary Key](https://www.utteraccess.com/wiki/Primary_Key), [AutoNumber](https://www.utteraccess.com/w/index.php?title=AutoNumber&action=edit)]
strFirstName
strLastName

**tblClasses**
ClassID [Primary Key, AutoNumber]
strClassDescription

**tblClassMembers**
ClassMemberID [Primary Key, AutoNumber]
lngClassID [[Foreign Key](https://www.utteraccess.com/wiki/Foreign_Key) to tblClasses.ClassID]
lngStudentID [Foreign Key to tblStudents.StudentID]
strSeatLocation



The Junction Table, tblClassMembers, contains one record for each student/class combination. Note that tblClassMembers can contain additional information about that combined piece of information: strSeatLocation. Because you know the student and the class, you can describe where the student sits *during that class*.

Because [AutoNumber](https://www.utteraccess.com/w/index.php?title=AutoNumber&action=edit) [fields](https://www.utteraccess.com/wiki/Field) are the most common [Primary Key](https://www.utteraccess.com/wiki/Primary_Key) for a table, you will just need to use a Long Integer field in your Junction Table to provide the link, since Autonumber fields are, by definition, Long Integer [data type](https://www.utteraccess.com/w/index.php?title=Data_Type&action=edit).