Revit Family Library: User Guide

What the library is and how to find a family

BBM-FAMILY-LIBRARY-GUIDE
Companion to BBM-STD-69 Family Standard V0.1
29 October 2026

The office keeps one library of checked Revit families at `BABOOM-BIM-STANDARD\02-LIBRARIES\01-FAMILIES`. Use these families in every project before making or downloading a new one. The library is **read-only** for users: you load from it, you never save into it.

1 What is in the library

889 families in **19 category folders**. Each one has been cleaned (unused content purged, empty parameters removed), renamed to the office rule and classified with Uniclass, OmniClass and MasterFormat codes.

Inside each category folder, families are grouped by their Uniclass product code (for example `Pr_40_30_87 Storage units and cupboards`). Each folder also holds `00-TEMPLATES` with the Revit templates (.rft) to start a new family of that category.

The **index** (`BBM-FAMILY-LIBRARY-INDEX.csv`) lists every family with its folder, Revit category, types, classification codes and path. The **catalogue** is the visual version of the index.

```
01-FAMILIES\
  README.md                start here
  BBM-FAMILY-LIBRARY-GUIDE.pdf this guide
  CATALOGUE.html           browse + search
  BBM-FAMILY-LIBRARY-INDEX.csv the list
  01-ANO\ ... 12-FRN\ ... 31-WIN\ category folders
    00-TEMPLATES\          .rft to start new
    Pr_40_30_87 Storage units...\
      BBM-ARC-FRN-STORAGE-v01.rfa
  97-CATALOGUE\          catalogue pictures
  98-ARCHIVE\             old Revit backups
  99-INTAKE\              new, not approved yet
```

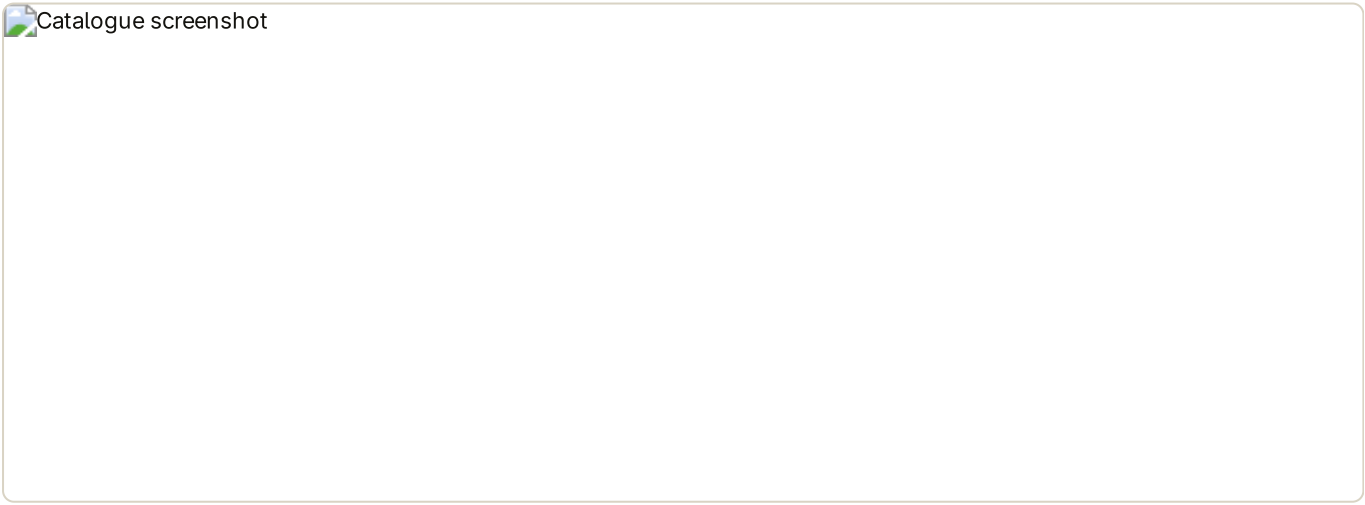
2 Find a family: the catalogue

Open 1
Double-click `CATALOGUE.html` in the library folder. It opens in your browser; no install.

Search 2
Type any word: name, type size, category or Uniclass code. Narrow with the folder, Revit category and Uniclass filters.

Check 3
Each card shows the preview, category code, Revit category, Uniclass code and its types (hover to see all types).

Copy path 4
Click **Copy path** on the card. The full server path of the .rfa is copied for Revit.



The catalogue: header counts, search and filters, one card per family. Tabs: Folder codes and Intake (awaiting review).

3 Load it into your project

Insert › Load Family
In Revit, on the Insert tab, click Load Family.

Paste the path
Paste the copied path in the File name box and press Open.

Place it
The family and all its types are now in your project. Edit types inside the project, not in the library file.

Open .rfa on a card opens the file directly. To change a family for one project, edit it from the project (Edit Family) and load it back into the project only. Never save over the library file.

4 The naming rule

Every library family is named `BBM—<DISC>-<CAT>-<NAME>—v01`. The name tells you who owns it, the discipline, the folder it lives in and its version.

BABOOM (office) - ARC (discipline) - FRN (category code) - STORAGE (name) - v01 (version)

DISC is `ARC` architecture, `STR` structure or `MEP` building services. **CAT** is the category code; its folder is that code with a number, for example `12-FRN` (table below). **NAME** is short, in capitals, words joined by hyphens, and describes the object, not a project or client. A changed family gets the next version (`v02`); the old version is kept.

Type names carry the size or option, for example `W0600-D0400-H0800`. BBM-STD-69 section 2 gives the full grammar for new content (`ORG-DISC-CAT-TYPE-DESC-vNN`). Published family names are never renamed. Folders are numbered `NN.CODE`; families already loaded in projects are copies and are not affected.

5 Folder codes

Folder	Contents	Families
02-BEM	Beams, structural framing	52
03-CLM	Columns	31
04-DAT	Data devices	1
05-DOR	Doors	87
06-DUC	Duct accessories, air terminals	18
07-ELF	Electrical fixtures, cable tray	28
08-ENT	Entourage and site	9
09-EQU	Equipment (mech., elec., specialty)	231
10-FAS	Fire alarm devices, sprinklers	22
11-FND	Foundations	15

Folder	Contents	Families
12-FRN	Furniture and casework	148
13-GEN	Generic models	29
14-LTG	Lighting fixtures and devices	61
17-PRK	Parking	4
19-SAN	Sanitary and plumbing	101
23-STD-RAI	Railings and balusters	1
27-STD-WAL	Walls and curtain panels	4
29-TEL	Communication, telephone, security	19
31-WIN	Windows	17
01-ANO, 00-STD-TTB	Annotations and tags, title blocks	not indexed

Folders with templates only or still empty: 15-MAS mass, 16-PLT planting, 18-RBR rebar, 28-STF stiffeners, 30-TRS trusses, 20-SGN signage, 21-STD-CLG / 22-STD-FLR / 24-STD-RMP / 25-STD-ROF / 26-STD-STR (system families: ceilings, floors, ramps, roofs, stairs). The catalogue's Folder codes tab always shows the current list.

6 Adding a new family: 99-INTAKE

`99-INTAKE` holds families that are **not approved yet**, copied exactly as received. Do not load them into projects. A family enters the library in four steps:

Submit 1
Send the .rfa to the library curator with where it came from (manufacturer, website, project) and who may use it. The curator places it in `99-INTAKE` and lists it in `INTAKE-LIST.csv`.

Review 2
The curator marks it keep or drop: usage rights are known, it is not a duplicate of a library family, category and geometry are right, it is useful beyond one project.

Clean 3
A kept family is cleaned: purge unused, remove only parameters that are empty and unused, rename to the rule, classify, then flex every type and check the geometry did not change.

Publish 4
The curator copies it into its category folder, adds its row to the index and regenerates the catalogue. Only now may projects use it.

Do

- Search the catalogue before making or downloading a family.
- Load from the library path; edit only inside your project.
- Send useful new families to the curator through intake.

Do not

- Save, rename or move files in the library folders.
- Copy families straight into a category folder.
- Use 99-INTAKE or 98-ARCHIVE files in a project.

7 Who to ask

Library curator (BIM team): questions, missing families, errors in a family, and every new family. The rules behind this guide are in **BBM-STD-69 Family Standard** (`BABOOM-BIM-STANDARD\04-DOCUMENTS`): authoring, cleaning, testing and release.