

Getting a BOM from EAGLE

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One of the 'big deals' about ECAD is that, although it can be tougher getting all the details entered and correct initially, all this stuff is easy to get into reports afterward. "So, how do I get a BOM out of EAGLE355?", you ask. Try this...

But first, before doing anything further:

Make sure that the file 204BRD2XLS.ULP (ENSC204 website – Project Documentation section) resides in EAGLE's ULP folder (wherever you installed EAGLE). The file is also in the large zipped EAGLE355 archive also available on the ENSC204 website. If you're working from a LabNet computer which may not have this file, put it onto your diskette in A: drive.

1. To make things easier, copy your finished schematic to a diskette in your A: drive.
2. In EAGLE, open the schematic from drive A:.
3. If you haven't created a board yet, type the command 'BOARD' on the command line (or use the top tool bar icon under the VIEW command), and hit return. Create from schematic? = YES.
4. EAGLE should create a new window containing a board outline and a bunch of parts bundled up in a 'ratsnest' of 'airwires'. You don't need to do anything with this, so don't panic.
5. In the Board window, select the ULP (User Language Program) icon (underneath the Library command) on the upper tool bar. If you've set-up your directory OPTIONS correctly when you first configured EAGLE, this should be the default directory for ULPs. Otherwise, steer EAGLE's RUN window to the ULP directory under the main EAGLE folder. Select 204BRD2XLS.ULP. This program will execute and create the *.BOM file for your project and save it in the same directory that your project is residing in - in this case, on the A drive.
 - o **Note:** An ULP is a C-like coded mini-program that any user can create to customize EAGLE to do neat and interesting things. Before using an ULP, it's a good idea to look at its contents. There should always be a header explaining what it does and how to use it. Go to EAGLE's main control panel, select File ->Open->ULP. Select the file you wish to look at. EAGLE will open it in an editor window.
6. Start EXCEL. File/Open > select your *.BOM file from the directory where the related project resides.
7. EXCEL Import Options: (1) Delimited, start on row 1, Windows ANSI, Next; (2) Other |, Next; (3) Data format = General. Massage the data to meet the detail expectations and otherwise clean-up to suit.
8. Please see Fred if you have problems with this.