

Database

Picklists Provide Easy Assignment of Attributes

What Is a Picklist?

A picklist is a window that provides one-click selection of any of the allowable string values for a particular attribute associated with one or more elements in a geometric object. Using a picklist window is quick and easy and avoids multiple steps by providing easy, interactive assignment of attribute values. Multiple picklist windows can be used for a single directly-attached attribute table in your TNT display or editing operations. A sample picklist for a string field named FACILITY is shown at the right.



Picklists tables can be prepared in advance to act as constraints by providing only the designed categories, or values, for the attribute. Picklist tables can also be created at any time from the values already in a string field in an attribute table. Picklist tables can also be created when a new string field is added to an attribute table. The string values in any picklist table can be edited or added to at any time and the associated styles added or changed. The templates you prepare to reuse your existing attribute structures with new objects will also preserve and transfer the string values and style assignments of all picklist tables.

Use Wizard to Create or Edit a Picklist Table. A picklist wizard is available to create or edit a picklist for any string field in an attribute table with one-to-one attachment to geometric elements. Simply click on the Setup Picklist button in the Table Properties window to open

How Is a Picklist Used?

- Assign attributes with a single mouse click
- No keyboard required
- Use symbols/patterns to quickly identify correct choice
- Fill out multiple fields in a table from picklists
- Automatically populate all associated computed fields after selection from picklist
- Picklists automatically available in templates created from geometric objects with picklists

the picklist wizard. It guides you through the steps to create a picklist table and enter its string values and link to the associated styles. The Setup Picklist button can also be used to access an existing picklist table and add or edit values and styles.

Build a Picklist from Text or Table. The values you want to use for your picklist may already exist in an independent table or a text file that can be imported into a table. You do not need to use the picklist wizard to manually enter these values. A string field in the table to be used as a picklist table can be related to a string field in an attribute table and thus provide its picklist. Using an existing table as a picklist table requires some familiarity with TNT table creation and management options as follows.

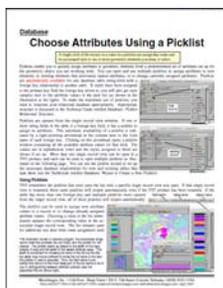
- Copy the table or import the text list to the desired database
- Create the directly-linked attribute table if not already available
- Establish the connection between the directly-attached attribute table and the picklist table through the Table Properties window

What Is a Picklist Table?

A picklist table could contain all the soil type identities that occur in a county. A single click on the picklist window would fill in that soil type in the associated string field for a new or selected polygon(s).

A picklist table could contain all the types of point element features that might be found in an infrastructure survey, such as manholes, gas meters, cable boxes, water meters, and so on, for simple assignment to new points. A new feature type that is not included in the picklist table can be easily added and used.

See these individual Technical Guides concerning picklists for additional information.



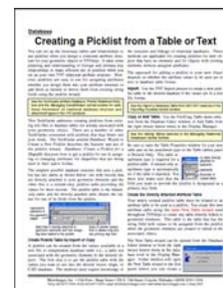
Database: Choose Attributes Using a Picklist



Database: Wizard to Create a New Picklist



Database: Create a Picklist for a Shapefile



Database: Creating a Picklist from a Table or Text



Database: Picklist Relational Structure