

SAS Library

See www.stattutorials.com/SASDATA for files mentioned in this tutorial


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Creating A Permanent SAS Library

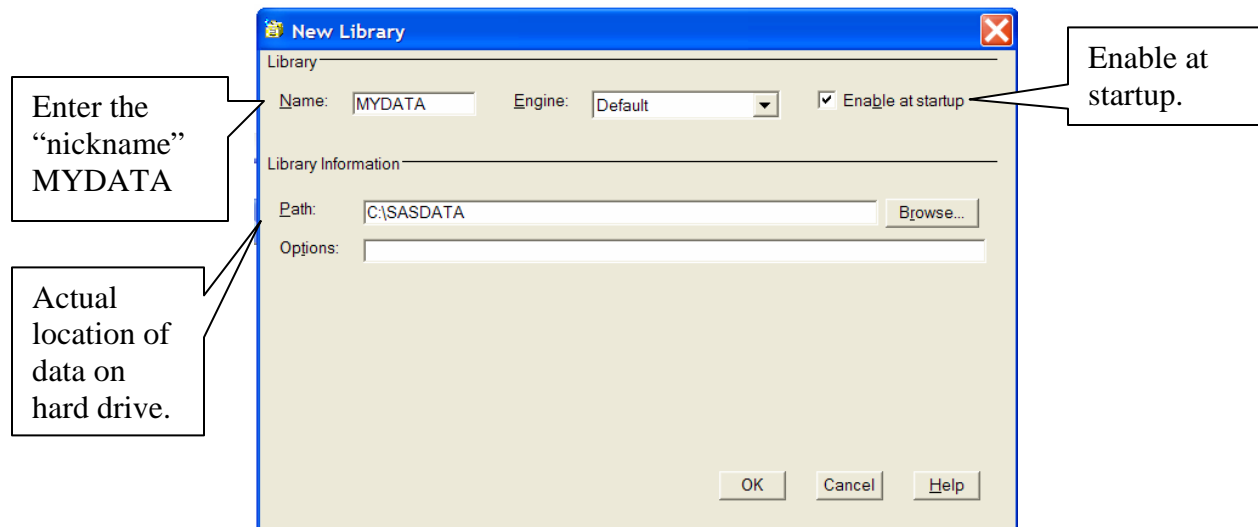
In order for SAS to read data from a SAS data file, it must know where the information is located on disk. In SAS terminology, this location is referred to as a **library**. In Windows terminology, a library is simply a directory.

Some of the tutorial examples refer to SAS data files in a SAS Library. In order to be able to do those examples, you should set up a SAS Library named MYDATA as described in this example.

There are (at least) two ways to interactively create a new SAS library:

1. In the SAS Explorer window, right click to display a pop-up menu. Then select New... and Library.
2. Click on the New Library icon on the SAS toolbar. 

Either of these methods will display the New Library dialog box, illustrated in the dialog box below:



New library dialog box

In the Name textbox, enter the name you want to assign to the library. In this case, the name *MYDATA* is used. In the Path textbox, enter the location of the Windows directory that contains your SAS data files. In this case, the files are in the C:\SASDATA drive. You will normally not have to change anything in the Engine and Options dialog boxes.

Notice the checkbox “Enable at startup.” If you are going to be using this library over and over again, you’ll want to check this box. If the library is enabled at startup, then every time SAS begins, it knows about that library location.

Once you have established a library name, refer to data sets in that library using a two part SAS data set name.

For example

Your SAS library named **MYDATA** (which is the nickname for C:\SASDATA)
The data file you want to use is named **SOMEDATA** (actually it has the Windows filename SOMEDATA.SAS7BDAT on disk.)

In a SAS procedure you refer to this data set name as **MYDATA.SOMEDATA**.

For example

```
PROC MEANS DATA = MYDATA.SOMEDATA ;  
RUN ;
```