array elt used before set

The error above means that an array element has been attempted to be used before it was created (i.e., assigned a proper value). It indicates a programming error and there is not much you can do about it unless you are the author of the offending code. The best thing you can do is try to create a reproducible sequence of events that generate this error message, then report your findings to SDI and ask them to fix the problem. (Definition from Jeff Small)

It happens when BuildersCAD is trying to add a wall to the BuildersCAD Walls Catalog.

Solution 1: You can have no more than 38 walls total in the BuildersCAD Walls Catalog including wall types EXTLB, INTLB and INTNLB. If you have reached the limit you will have to delete an existing wall before you can add a new wall.

Solution 2: Using the Windows Explorer (not the Internet Explorer), locate the wall framing project (*.wf) you are using. Inside the wall framing project you will find the file *cb_lyorg.tx*. Open this file in Wordpad (NOT "Notepad"; it doesn't carry any of the formatting and you'd see a garbled bunch of text) and delete the last entry. (To open the file in Wordpad, right click on the file and select "Open With" and then "Wordpad".)

It also happens when BuildersCAD is trying to generate wall panel drawings.

Solution: Look for custom-framed walls in the problem level. One-by-one, try Revert to Standard Framing (access in Alter Wall Menu) to locate the problem wall.

It also happens when BuildersCAD is trying to generate roof planes. I've only encountered this problem once in more than 10 years of working with BuildersCAD.

Solution: When Tricon Design encountered this error, it ended up resulting from a combination of problem files. There were some corrupt roof text files which could deleted. There was also a corrupt master.df and rf_proj.tx. Both of these files had to be replaced with files of the same name that were taken from another database folder.

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load read only?

It happens when BuildersCAD or ArrisCAD is trying to load a database.

Solution 1: Make sure ArrisCAD or BuildersCAD is closed. Open the Windows Explorer (not the Internet Explorer) and locate the database folder. Typically the database is saved in the folder C:\BCAD\User-login-name or C:\ArrisCAD_users\User-login-name. Inside the database folder look for a subfolder called *autosave.dir*. This folder should be empty. Delete anything you find in this folder, but do NOT delete the autosave.dir folder itself.

Solution 2: This often happens when you copy a database from a CD onto your hard drive. Open the Windows Explorer (not the Internet Explorer) and locate the database folder on your hard drive. Typically databases are saved in the folder C:\BCAD\User-login-name or C:\ArrisCAD_users\User-login-name. Right click on the *.db folder and select *Properties* on the Windows menu. Look on the *General* tab and see if *Attributes* are set to Read-only. Pick on the box next to *Read-only* so that it un-checks. Then hit the *Apply* button in the bottom right corner of the menu. A pop-up will ask you if you want to apply the changes to this folder only or to all files and subfolders. Pick the box that says *Apply changes to this folder; subfolders and files*. Then pick *OK*.

Solution 3: You may get this error message because of an entry in the *master.dr* file. Open the Windows Explorer (not the Internet Explorer) and locate the database folder. Typically databases are saved in the folder C:\BCAD\User-login-name or C:\ArrisCAD_users\User-login-name. Locate the *master.dr* file inside the database folder. Right click on this file and select the *Open-With* option and open *master.dr* with Wordpad. You will find a line entry for every layer in the database. It will look similar to the line below.

```
*@ly    1009;master.dr;ly;1009;pn_l1ol.ly;ro;none;opening labels
```

Notice the file bolded in blue. This indicates the layer status and should be set to **rw** or read-write. If you find any layer line entries set to ro use the text editing tools to change that entry to **rw**.

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bad display list format

It happens when BuildersCAD or ArrisCAD is trying to load a database.

Solution 1:   Make sure ArrisCAD or BuildersCAD is closed. Open the Windows Explorer (not the Internet Explorer) and locate the database folder. Typically databases are saved in the folder C:\BCAD\User-login-name or C:\ArrisCAD_users\User-login-name. When you locate the database do a search in the database folder for ***.dl**. Files that end in ***.dl** are display list files. These are files that tell BuildersCAD/ArrisCAD how to display the information in the layer files (***.ly**). You will likely find one ***.dl** file for every ***.ly** file so there may be very many. Once you've located the display list files, delete ALL of them. BuildersCAD or ArrisCAD will automatically regenerate these files when you load the database.

Solution 2: After deleting the display list files and trying to load the database you get the following error message:

```
Error:  - Unexpected System error during call to: $wlycre()
```

$wlycre is the utility that creates the display list. It recreates display list on the current layer in the database (the layer where the database pointer is located). This error message points to a corrupt entity in the database. The corrupt entity would be in the layer where $wlycre fails. To find the corrupt entity, first turn on all layers. On the prompt line, type in **da** to display all entities. Clear the screen with the command **clr** and create display lists with the command **dlcr**. BuildersCAD or ARRISCADCAD will display to the screen as the display list is created. When this process fails, the layer that is displaying contains the culprit.

You either need to delete this entire layer, and reenter the information. Or, looking at the entities in the layer, try to deduce which entity is the problem (an RI, crosshatch, etc.), then delete the problem entity.

(*Solution from Jim Bennett of Sigma Design)*

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bad majic number

It happens when BuildersCAD or ArrisCAD is trying to load a database.

Type in **err**<CR> and see if the trace-back points to a specific file or folder.

Solution 1: The error may result from a corrupt custom font encountered when BuildersCAD or ArrisCAD is attempting to load a database. Note that system fonts are located in the ArrisCAD or BuildersCAD folder inside the **lib** subfolder. User-defined fonts should be in either the Standards or Project folders. Try replacing the font file (*.lt) with a backup. If no backup is available try renaming another font file to the problem font name.

For example if the **bad majic number** error message includes a reference to a font file **gen+.lt** (the likely corrupt font) then locate another font file such as **hlc.lt**. Copy it and rename the copy to **gen+.lt**.

Solution 2:   Make sure ArrisCAD or BuildersCAD is closed. Open the Windows Explorer (not the Internet Explorer) and locate the database folder. Locate the files *master.df* and *master.dr* then rename them to *master.df.old* and *master.dr.old* so that BuildersCAD or ArrisCAD will not "see" them. Try replacing these files with files from another database.

Master.df is a file that stores default graphic entity settings. You likely will not notice any difference in the display of the database when replacing this file.

Master.dr is an index file that tells BuildersCAD or ArrisCAD what layers exist in the drawing and what RI libraries are loaded. When looking for a replacement *master.dr* it is important to find a database with the same layers otherwise you will appear to lose information that is on layers that do not exist in the replacement *master.dr*.

Solution 3:   Make sure ArrisCAD or BuildersCAD is closed. Open the Windows Explorer (not the Internet Explorer) and locate the database folder. Inside the database folder look for the subfolders: **thumbuser.dir** and **vports.dir**. You will find ***.sc** files which are screen image file used to display Sheets and Viewports. Delete the *.sc files.

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bad position

It happens when BuildersCAD is trying to extrude 3D walls or perform wall edits.

Solution 1: First go to Wall Utilities and copy the entire level of walls (the level you were working in when you got the error message) to an empty level. Then, clear the original wall level. Then, copy the walls back to the original level.

It also happens in ArrisCAD when several people are working in the same database at the same time.

Solution: It appears that the error occurs when someone Saves while working in a Viewport, while others are working on other drawings with layers shared by that Viewport. To avoid this problem, leave the Viewport and go back to the Sheet before saving.

(Solution from Dean Hess, of Ross Schonder Sterzinger Cupcheck P.C.)

It also happens when ArrisCAD responds to a Save command. The user's work does save, but then the error comes up.

Solution 1: "This error occurs when you try to move to a non-existent position in a text file. Try looking at your master.dr file and see if you have a line that starts with *@*wrk. I'd say your technician is working in a .sht or .dr file other than master, adding some new layers and saving with one of the new layers as the work layer. Try using an existing layer as your work layer before saving."

(Solution taken verbatim from a list-server posting from Chad Estes, of Beicker, Martinez, Schwab Structural Engineers)

Solution 2: Your master.dr file for the problem database is corrupt. If you edit it you will notice that the end of the file is missing. Recover one from a backup. Even though your data saves, if your master.dr is corrupt it may prevent you from loading the database.

(Solution from Robert Trinidad, Lake/Flato Architects, Inc.)

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bad len lenpre

It happens when ArrisCAD is trying to save a database.

Solution 1: "It means the database is messed up, usually when trying to read it backwards. (ArrisCAD is "smart" enough to read forwards or backwards from the current position, from the start or from the end, in order to get to the entity desired as quickly as possible. This is left over from the days of slow computers when we were trying to make ArrisCAD as fast as possible, and databases as small as possible.)."

Try packing the database.

(Solution taken verbatim from a list-server posting from Al Hart, Sigma Development Team)

Solution 2: "We used ARRISplus to go through each layer in the drawing file and make repairs. We came upon a layer that would diagnose, but not repair. It got an error message 'Bad entity at 0 ....'   We changed each entity type of the layer and repaired after each one. Then saved if successful. So first line, then circles, then text, then hatch."

(Solution taken verbatim from a list-server posting from Amy Kirkman, of Matthei and Colin Associates)

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