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Using Goldwave for Extracting Audio from CDs

The GoldWave CD Reader tool digitally copies audio directly from an audio CD to your hard drive, without using your sound card.

This features has several advantages over sound card recording:

Audio can be compressed while extracting, saving hard drive space. Information such as artist, title, and album can be downloaded and saved automatically.

The CD-ROM drive must be MMC compliant (Multimedia Command Standard). For Windows 95, 98, and ME an ASPI driver must be installed. For Windows 2000/XP either an ASPI driver or administrator privileges are required. Due to the wide variety of interfaces, inconsistent device standards, and problems with the Windows ASPI driver, incompatibilities may arise that will require a system reset. It is recommended that you close all other programs before proceeding.

If your system is configured correctly, you will see a window that allows you to select a CD device and specify the tracks or range of audio to copy. If you have only one CD-ROM drive, only one device will be listed in the drop down list. If you already have an audio CD in the drive, the track times will be shown in list. Otherwise you will need to insert an audio CD and select the CD device from the list.

Choose the Get Titles button to download information (album, titles, etc.) about the CD from the freedb.org website. An active connection to the Internet is required.

Select a single track from the list and use the Rename button (or Alt+R) to manually rename it.

Choose the Select All button to select all tracks or check each track you want to save. You can select any part of the CD or preview tracks by selecting the Read Time Range tab. A fast CD-ROM or DVD drive is required for previewing. You may have to increase the Read speed or the Number of sectors per read setting

under the Options tab to get smooth playback. For defect free reading, the Number of sectors to overlap setting should be 2 or greater.

Choose the Save button to save all tracks to separate files or a time range to a single file. You can select the file format and other options on the Save CD Tracks window that appears.

Use the Options tab to changes settings for reading audio from the CD and the download database. The Swap bytes option changes the order of bytes extracted from the CD-ROM. If the files sound badly distorted or like a loud hiss, check this box and save the tracks again.

Troubleshooting

- If you get synchronization errors at the beginning, try continuing several times before giving up. Some drives are very inaccurate when spinning up and may require a dozen continues before synchronization can be reliably established. If that does not help, set the Number of sectors to overlap value to zero on the Options tab and try again.
- If you see an error message indicating a read problem, make sure that the CD is free of dust and finger prints.
- If preview playback is intermittent, increase the Read speed or the Number of sectors per read setting or reduce the Number of sectors to overlap setting under the Options tab.