Subject: Audio file format
Posted by SoundCheck on Tue, 01 Mar 2011 15:19:36 GMT
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I want to rip some CD's. There are several audio formats in which I can save the files such as wav, wma, mp3, flac, etc, and I'm not well-versed in these name extensions. I hope to hear some opinions on which format is the best or which one you recommend. Thanks in advance.

Subject: Re: Audio file format
Posted by Adveser on Tue, 01 Mar 2011 18:08:04 GMT
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Use Exact Audio Copy to make the wav files.

http://Exactaudiocopy.de

Use Lame MP3 to make the MP3 files:

Attached is a copy of my RazorLame folder. YOU MUST GO TO OPTIONS AND TELL IT THE DIRECTORY OF LAME.EXE, WHICH IS IN THE FOLDER. The settings are already optimized for perfection. You can change the bit-rate in "Lame options" but I advise against it.

Enjoy.

File Attachments
1) RazorLame.zip, downloaded 475 times

Subject: Re: Audio file format
Posted by SoundCheck on Wed, 02 Mar 2011 06:22:14 GMT
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Thanks a lot for this program/software...Extracting audio tracks with quality output will become a lot easier for me...I'm scanning through its features and I hope that in a while, I'll be already copying audio tracks...

Subject: Re: Audio file format
Posted by GuitarStrings on Thu, 03 Mar 2011 01:19:05 GMT
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I prefer using whatever works for my iPod...which doesn't seem to be a lot. Aim for .mp3 or .wma. The only problem with .wma is the fact that other computer music players normally can't play them, so it's totally up to you as to what you prefer.

Subject: Re: Audio file format
Posted by Shane on Thu, 03 Mar 2011 03:09:52 GMT
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I use EAC like Adveser. Only I compress my files to flac to save some hardrive space. If I need to make a copy of a CD later I extract back to wav files to burn.

Subject: Re: Audio file format
Posted by GoodVibrations on Thu, 03 Mar 2011 03:57:46 GMT
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I thought only wma would work in a CD player, such as in the car. Is this true, or will other formats also work? I know my MP3 player will play wma and MP3 formats, but I haven't tried anything else yet.

Subject: Re: Audio file format
Posted by SoundCheck on Sat, 05 Mar 2011 11:48:26 GMT
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I tried to do a little research about this one, but it was kinda difficult to digest. Here is what I gathered, in a nutshell: WMA is a common format that works on many audio players including VLC player, Windows Media Player, RealPlayer, and Winamp. Old stereo systems may not read this format because they are designed to handle CDA format (format for music CD's)...but certain players and stereo systems are now catching up in terms of the file formats that they can handle.

Subject: Re: Audio file format
Posted by Adveser on Thu, 07 Apr 2011 03:10:30 GMT
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GoodVibrations wrote on Wed, 02 March 2011 19:57I thought only wma would work in a CD player, such as in the car. Is this true, or will other formats also work? I know my MP3 player will play wma and MP3 formats, but I haven't tried anything else yet.

I think that was the marketing from MS. Basically they used to claim that you could burn CD's using WMP from WMA files. Obviously, they were converting them to Wav, then indexing them to CDA. I don't recall them ever claiming you could use someone else's software to burn WMA directly to disc for playback on a CD. Granted I have seen WMA supported in some players, more than likely a DVD player because those have to have more flexibility to play all the weird codecs people use in videos.

I'm in the same ballpark as Shane now. I was very unhappy with what I saw when I looked at a F Analyser comparing MP3 to FLAC. Once I did some testing and figured out that not only does FLAC work with everything else I do, but it does some non-audio things better, like tagging faster.

I've basically been depressed and very unhappy with music for the last few years I was listening to MP3s. I hadn't gotten into very many "new" albums and had a hard time listening to stuff I had originally heard on CD. After listening to the FLAC rips, I can say the reason behind all of it was the MP3's. I've been pretty much listening to music for at least 6 hours a day since. I noticed when listening to a beat and worn cassette that it had something there I was missing, regardless of how bad it sounded. I slowly pieced things together and gave it a shot.

I'm of the opinion right now that you can't even talk about high quality if you are using lossy compressed files. Your amp, speakers, DAC, Sound Card, drivers, speakers...they might as well be complete junk running MP3. You are throwing away your money until you go lossless.

Here is a photo of the comparison. YES you can hear the difference.

http://adveser.webs.com/photos/untitled.jpg