



## Downloading and Installing Audacity and the Lame MP3 encoder

Free Downloads and Complete Tutorials for installation and using Audacity are available on-line at: <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/download/>

For easiest installation download the **Audacity 1.2.6 installer**. Get it here.

You will also need the **LAME MP3 encoder**. Get it here.

**Windows**  
**Recommended Download**  
[System Requirements](#)  
Click the appropriate link below, which takes you to the SourceForge download as...". The SourceForge download should start automatically. If it does not, click or "mirror". **Only these links and the automatic download are authorized** download managers if the download is incorrect.  

- Windows 98/ME/2000/XP/Vista: [Audacity 1.2.6 installer](#) (.exe file, 2.1 MB) editor. **See further information about Vista.**

**Optional Downloads**  
**Plug-ins and Libraries**

- [LADSPA plug-ins 0.4.15 installer](#) (.exe file, 1.5 MB) - over 90 plug-ins.
- [VST Enabler](#) - Allows Audacity to load VST effect plug-ins.
- [Plug-Ins](#) - Download additional effects and filters.
- [LAME MP3 encoder](#) - Allows Audacity to export MP3 files.

After you click on the Audacity 1.2.6 installer link shown above, this window will open.

Click on **Direct link** to download Audacity.

After clicking on the above link, choose where you want to **SAVE** the file. After it's downloaded just double-click on the file and do a standard installation.

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**Your Audacity download will start shortly...**  
Problems with the download? Please use the [direct link](#) or try another [mirror](#).  
Ads by Google  
**AVS Audio Editor**

Audacity is ready to use but you won't be able to export to MP3 format audio, only WAV format unless you go back and DOWNLOAD AND INSTALL THE LAME MP3 ENCODER... SEE LINK ABOVE.

**WARNING: DO NOT DOWNLOAD THE AVS AUDIO EDITOR (IT'S NOT FREE!)**

After you click on the Lame MP3 encoder link a new window will open.

Click on this link.

**Windows**

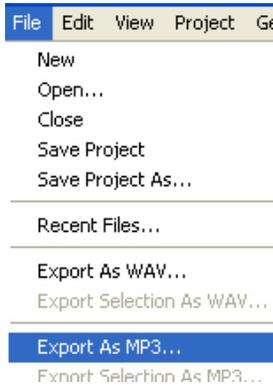
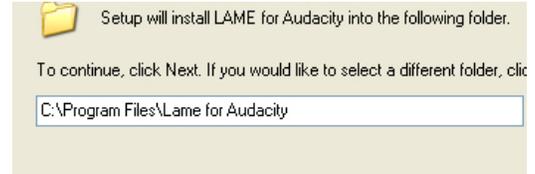
- Go to the [LAME download page](#).
- Under "For Audacity on Windows", click on the link [LAME MP3 encoder v3.98.2 for Audacity](#) anywhere on your computer. **Do not** click on the link [LAME MP3 encoder v3.98.2 for Audacity](#) anywhere on your computer.
- Double-click "[Lame\\_v3.98.2\\_for\\_Audacity](#)" the "publisher could not be verified!"

In the window that opens, choose this link  
Then choose SAVE and save it to the desktop

**For Audacity on Windows:**  
[Lame v3.98.2 for Audacity on Windows.exe](#)  
Please support this download server. Any donation is HIGHLY appreciated (NOT required to download lame, lame is free).



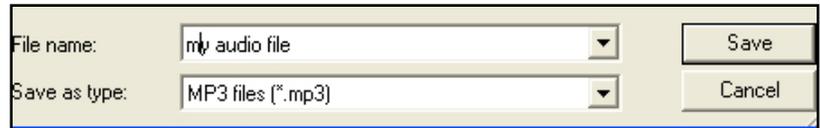
This is what the downloaded Lame MP3 encoder installer will look like on your desktop. Double-click it to install. Let it install the encoder to the default location, C:\Program Files\Lame for Audacity as shown on the right.



When you're done editing your AUDACITY PROJECT, you have to **EXPORT it as an MP3 audio file.**

Choose **File > Export As MP3** as shown on the left.

Name your file. The save as type will be MP3 files (\*.mp3)



When you click **Save** this window will open. Click **Yes**



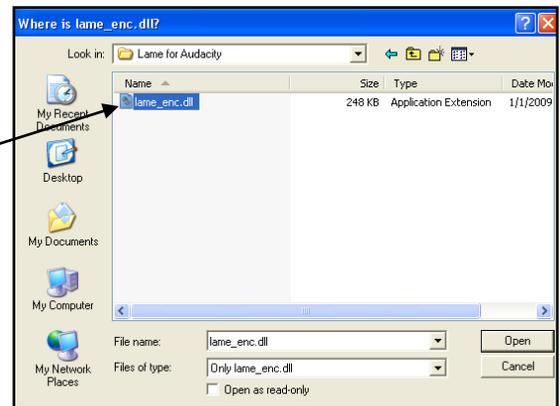
This window will open.

Browse to the **C drive**. Select it.

Find the **Programs Files folder**... select it.

Find the **Lame for Audacity folder**... select it.

Select the **Lame\_enc.dll** file as shown



Click **Open**

Your MP3 audio file will be exported to whatever location you chose to save it to. After this, you can just **Export to MP3** without "finding" the Lame MP3 encoder again.

# Audacity Basic Tutorial

## 1. Create a new project

**Open Audacity then IMMEDIATELY SAVE IT before recording or importing audio!**

It's best to create a folder on your USB jump drive then save your Audacity project into that folder. If you save it anywhere else, you'll need to copy both the Audacity project file (.aup) AND a FOLDER with the same name as your Audacity project with underscore data... ie: filename\_data to your jump drive if you want to move to another computer. If you don't have the folder, your project won't open.

## 2. Recording your Voice

Click on the red **Record** button  to begin recording.

Click on the blue **Pause** button  to pause the recording. Press it again to continue recording from where you left off.

Click on the yellow **Stop** button  to stop recording. The cursor will return to its previous position, before the recording was started.

*Note: Each time you stop recording then start recording again, a new audio "track" will be created.*

## 3. Playback Imported or Recorded Audio

Now click on the green Play button  at the top and you should hear the file you have just recorded or imported.

**NOTE 1:** The audio will playback from the position of the playback head. You might either have to:

1. Click on the "Skip to Start" button on the toolbar to return the playback head to the beginning of the project or,
2. Use the "Selection Tool" to position the playback head at the position where you want to start playing the audio.

**NOTE 2:** You can playback just one audio track by selecting the "Solo" button on a track.

**NOTE 3:** If you can't do anything. Hit the "Stop" button then try again.

## 4. Importing an Audio File

- Simply drag and drop the audio file in to the Audacity window. Or....
- Select **Import Audio ...** in the Project menu.

*NOTE: All versions of Audacity can import WAV, AIFF, AU, IRCAM, MP3 and OGG files. Version 1.2.6 CAN NOT import WMA (Windows Media Audio) files.*

## 5. Moving audio clips to another position on the timeline

Select the Time Shift Tool . It is used to move an audio clip back and forth on its track.

## 6. Splitting a clip for editing

First we've got to select a portion of an audio clip on a single track using the **Selection Tool** 

In the example below, we have a small sentence of speech, where the speaker made a pause after the first word. We'd like to eliminate that pause.

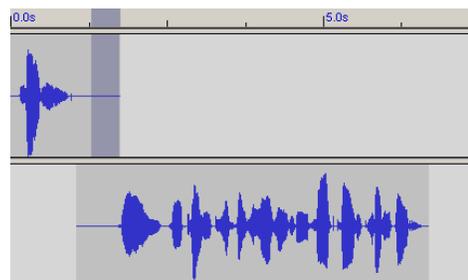
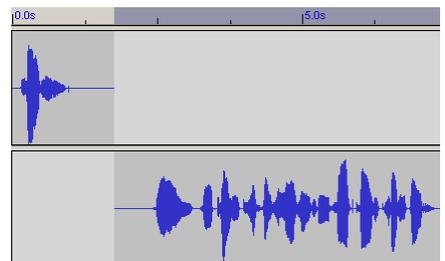
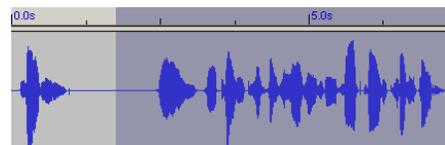
The part after the pause is selected as shown (darker gray area):

**Select the area you want to "split". Just click/drag over the area**

Now, use the **Split Function (Edit > Split)** to remove the selection area from the original track and move it to a new track as shown below:

Now use the **Time Shift Tool**  to grab the bottom audio clip and move it to the left as shown below:

When you play back both tracks, the audio now doesn't have as long a pause.



## Use the Envelope Tool to fade audio volume down/up in the middle of a clip.

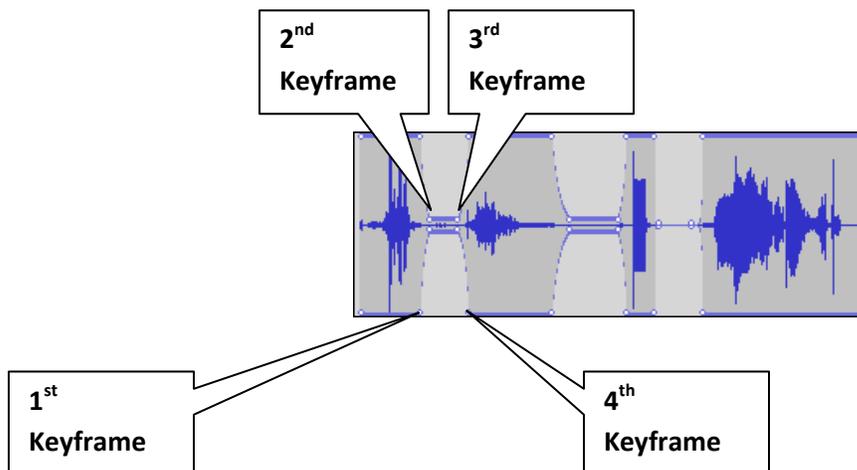
**Note:** If you want to fade the volume of a clip at the beginning or end, just use the selection tool to select the area of the clip where you want a fade then choose the fade in or fade out filter to apply the “fade” to the selected area.

### Creating “Keyframes” to control the audio levels



1. Switch to the **envelope tool**
2. Click on the audio file to create a “**keyframe**” and “lock” the volume of the audio track at its existing volume level
3. Click to the right of the first keyframe to create a **2<sup>nd</sup> Keyframe** then drag down to reduce the volume level.
4. Click again to the right of the second keyframe to create a **3<sup>rd</sup> keyframe** that will lock the volume to the level of the 2<sup>nd</sup> keyframe
5. Finally, click to the right of the 3<sup>rd</sup> keyframe to create a **4<sup>th</sup> keyframe** then drag the envelope to up to increase the volume level.

An example of an audio clip that fades down then up, then down, then up, etc.:



## Exporting your finished “Audio”

*NOTE: Unless you installed the LAME MP3 encoder, Audacity will only allow you to export WAV format audio files. See instructions above for installing and using it the first time.*

Just click on **FILE > Export As MP3** You should be able to take it from here ☺.

The MP3 file you EXPORT is the file you want to send to your instructor. **DO NOT SEND** the Audacity Project file (the one with an .aup extension).