

Common Audio Formats

Lossless – superb quality, bigger size; Lossy – lower quality, smaller size.



1. AIFF	lossless, big filesize, iPhone/iPad/iPod
2. WAV	lossless, big filesize, almost all devices
3. ALAC .m4a (Apple Lossless)	lossless, iPhone/iPad/iPod
4. FLAC	lossless, supported by Android starting with Android 3.1
5. Ogg Vorbis	lossy, but better than MP3 or AAC of the same bit rate, supported by Android devices
6. AAC	lossy, better than MP3 128kbit/s, iPhone/iPad/iPod, Android
7. MP3	lossy, supported by almost all devices

Recording and Editing Tools

Audacity (Windows, Mac, Linux)	http://audacity.sourceforge.net/	a powerful tool for editing, recording and mixing sound files;
Wavosaur (Windows)	http://www.wavosaur.com	a small portable tool which is powerful enough to handle basic audio editing and recording needs;

Audio Converters

FlicFlac Audio Converter (Windows) Max (Mac)	http://www.sector-seven.net/software/flicflac http://sbooth.org/Max/	a small portable audio conversion tool (WAV, FLAC, MP3, OGG, APE) highly configurable audio converter and CD-ripper (output: FLAC, MP3, APE, OGG, WAV, AIFF, AAC, etc.)
SoundConverter (Linux)	http://soundconverter.org/	a friendly, easy-to-use converter for Linux (output: WAV, FLAC, MP3, AAC, and OGG)
ConvertVideoToAudio.com	http://www.convertvideotoaudio.com	easily grab audio from almost any online video file hosted on YouTube and alike (output: AAC, AC3, FLAC, WAV, MP3);

Audio CD Rippers

FreeRip (Windows)	http://freerip.com/	easily convert your CDs to mp3, ogg, flac or wav format;
Exact Audio Copy (Windows)	http://www.exactaudiocopy.de/	perfectly rips your CDs and has a basic built-in sound editor;

Multi-purpose Software

iTunes (Mac/Windows)	sync your iPods/iPhones/iPads, transfer music, buy songs/albums, organize your music libraries and much more;
MediaMonkey (Windows)	http://www.mediamonkey.com rip/burn CDs, organize your music libraries, tag audio files, sync with iPhones, iPods, Android devices and other portable Audio/Video Devices, etc.;
Free YouTube to Mp3 Converter (Windows)	http://www.dvdvideosoft.com/products/dvd/Free-YouTube-to-MP3-Converter.htm download mp3 from all possible YouTube videos, also lets save the video itself (output: mp3, m4a, aac, wav, wma, ogg, flac, ape).

Other Useful Tools

TagScanner (Windows) – the most powerful tag editing tool for managing your music collection which lets you import tag info from online databases like Amazon or freedb, embed lyrics and cover art, easily edit tag info for multiple files and much more (supports all major audio formats);

**For more Audio tools for Windows check out <http://www.makeuseof.com/pages/best-windows-software>*