How to Use the

## Cassette Tape Converter With Audacity









## Instructions

- 1. Plug the USB cable (mini-A) into the bottom of the Cassette Tape Converter and (USB A) into the computer.
- 2. On the computer, open Audacity.
- 3. Make sure:
  - a) Go to *Edit > Preferences>Audio Settings.*
  - b) Recording: Device is set to "Microphone (USB Audio Device.)"
  - c) Channels: is set to "2 (Stereo)".
  - d) **Project Sample Rate** and **Default Sample Rate**: is set to "48000 Hz".
  - e) Do not close this dialogue box. Go to step 4.

Audio Settings 	Interface										
	Host: Windows DirectSound ~										
	Using: PortAudio V19.7.0-devel, revision unknown										
	Playback										
Interface Tracks	Device: Primary Sound Driver 🗸										
- Tracks Behaviors	Recording										
Spectrograms	Device:	Microphone	(USB Audio Device	) ~							
Extended Import	Channels:	2 (Stereo)		~							
Libraries Directories Warnings Effects	Quality Project Sar		48000 Hz 🗸	44100	0						
- Shortcuts Mouse	Default Sa	1	48000 Hz ~	44100							
Mouse Modules Application	Default Sa	mple Format:	32-bit float		~						
	Latency										
	Buffer leng	gth:	100	millise	conds						
	Latency compensation:		-130	millise	conds						

- 4. If you are using headphones, **plug them into the front of the Alienware tower** (not the *Cassette Tape Converter*).
  - a. Plugging headphones into the Cassette Tape Converter plays the sound the *Cassette Tape Converter* reads. If the volume is too low, your recording will be too quiet to enjoy.



- b. Plugging the sound into the Alienware tower plays the sound that *Audacity reads*. Adjusting the volume on the Alienware won't affect your recording. (Learn more on this in Step 11.)
- 5. Still in **Edit > Preferences**, choose *Recording.* 
  - a. Check the box: Software playthrough of input (may say, <u>Audible Playthrough.)</u>
  - b. Click OK
  - c. Sound will now play through the headphones.

Preferences: Recording	×
Devices Recording Time cres Quality Interface	Options  Play other tracks while recording (clearly)  Software playthrough of input Record on a new track Detect dropouts
Tracks Tracks Behaviors Spectrograms The Import / Export Extended Import	Sound Activated Recording Enable Level (dB): -60 -50
Libraries Directories Warnings Effects	Name newly recorded tracks With: Custom Track Name Recorded_Audio     Track Number System Date System Time
Keyboard Mouse Modules Application	Punch and Roll Recording Pre-roll: 5 seconds Crossfade: 10 milliseconds
	OK Cancel

- 6. Open the *Cassette Tape Converter* by sliding down the grey switch on the right side.
- 7. Load your tape, then close the front of the device until it clicks.
- 8. Rewind or fast forward your tape if needed, using the silver *REW* or *FF* buttons on the top of the device.
- 9. On the Cassette Tape Converter, press the Play button.
- 10. In *Audacity*, press the *Record* button.

	Audac	ity																						-	o x
File	Edit	Select	View	Transport	Tracks	G	Effect	Analyze	Tools	Help															
				•	-		a	I	*	Q Q ( 1⊪ ⊪I	9 Q Q	(ी)) • Audio Setup	ڻ Share Audio	₽ R	54 48 42 -36	-30 -24 -18 -	i i o'	<ul> <li>⊲(4))</li> <li>R</li> </ul>	-54 -48 -42 -3	36 -30 -24 -18 -	-12 -6 (1)				
1	₹.		0.0		1.0	2.0		3.0		4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0		11.0	12.0	13.0	14.0	15.0	16.0	17.0	18.0



11. Adjust the volume if needed with the volume dial on the side of the Cassette Tape Converter. Your soundwaves should look something like this:



- 12. When you have finished recording, press **Stop** on the Cassette Tape Converter.
- 13. Press the Stop button in Audacity.



## Saving Your Audio File for Playback

1. In Audacity, select File > Export Audio...





a) Format: change to MP3 Files.



- b) File Name: What you want the file to be called.
- c) **Folder:** Save your files to your USB (must be formatted as *NTFS* or *exFAT*).
  - i) To save via email to the cloud, choose the **Documents** folder and remember to move manually after saving.
- d) Audio options: Stereo.
- e) Bit rate Mode: Variable.
- f) Quality: 220-260 kpbs (Best quality).
- g) Export Range: Entire Project.
- h) Click Export.







## Saving Your Audio Files as Individual Songs

- 1. Click on the track where you want the first break (this should be at the start of your recording). A thin black line will appear on the track.
- 2. *CTRL* + *B* to create a break. This will open a dialogue box where you can enter the song's title.



- 3. Click on the track where you want the second break.
- 4. Follow step 2.



- 5. Repeat for the remainder of the songs.
- 6. Follow instructions for saving as an MP3 file but before exporting change *Export Range:* to *Multiple Files*.

Export Audio	, ,			×
File Name:	ALU Prineas.mp	3		
Folder:	C:\Users\MT_Stu	idio\Documents\Audacity		Browse
Format:	MP3 Files		~	
Audio opt	ions			
	Channels	🔾 Mono 🔹 Stereo 🗌 Custo	om mapping	Configure
	Sample Rate	48000 Hz	~	
	Bit Rate Mode	Variable	~	
	Quality	220-260 kbps (Best Quality)	~	
/	Export Range: (	) Entire Project		
(		Multiple Files		
		Current selection		

Last updated May 22, 2024 by JAM



