



Recording in Audacity

About Audacity

Audacity is a free, easy-to-use audio editor and recorder for Windows, Mac OS X, GNU/Linux, and other operating systems. You can use Audacity to:

- Record live audio.
- Convert tapes and records into digital recordings or CDs.
- Edit Ogg Vorbis, MP3, and WAV sound files.
- Cut, copy, splice, and mix sounds together.
- Change the speed or pitch of a recording.

Project: Create an audio recording in Audacity that contains a voice track and a music track. You will export the file as an MP3 and then we will upload to podomatic.com creating a podcast.

Instructions:

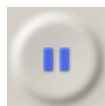
1. Recording Audio in Audacity

Click on the red **Record** button



To begin recording.

Click on the blue **Pause** button



To pause the recording. Press it again to continue.

Click on the yellow **Stop** button



To cease recording. The cursor will return to its previous position, before the recording was started.

That's it. It's easy to record your voice in Audacity.

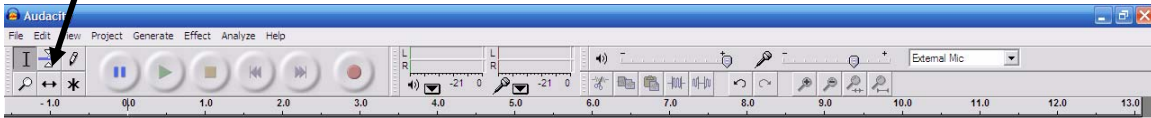
2. Audacity makes it very easy to mix two different sounds or tracks together.

- Record a track by selecting the red **record** button.
- To add music or mix tracks, select Import Audio... from the **Project** menu and navigate to the Web Tech folder. Locate the sub-folder music and select a song to import.




NCCE 2008

- Listen to your sound using the Play button. **Audacity** automatically mixes them together.
- Choose the **Time Shift** tool and adjust the position of one track or the other until they're synchronized the way you want them. You can even move tracks around while they're playing.

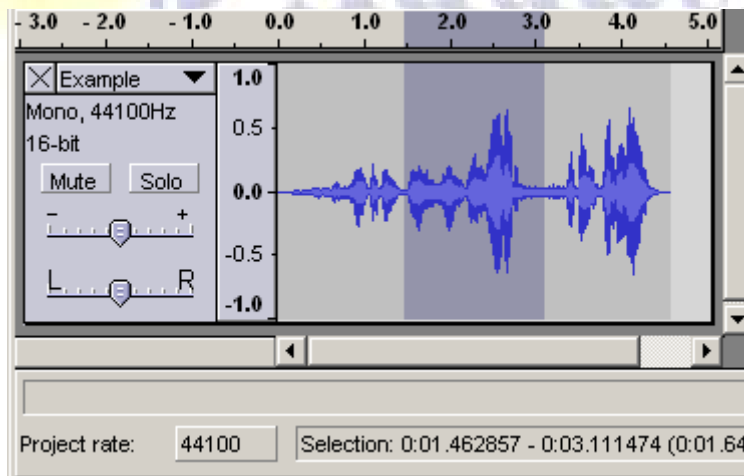


- If you hear clipping which wasn't present in either of the original files, it means that the combined volume of the two tracks is too loud. Use the gain controls on the tracks to reduce the volumes until you don't hear clipping anymore.
- After you complete the editing, export the file as a MP3.

3. To select the section of a track you wish to cut, copy, or paste, use the **selection**

tool . If it's not activated, do so now by clicking on it in the toolbar. Now press and hold the left mouse button, while you drag the mouse to mark an area. This area is darker than the surrounding area of the clip. Note that even though you can mark an area larger than or extending beyond the actual audio clip in the track, the operations will only work on the actual clip. Playback however will work outside the clip.

Press the space bar to listen to the audio in the marked area.



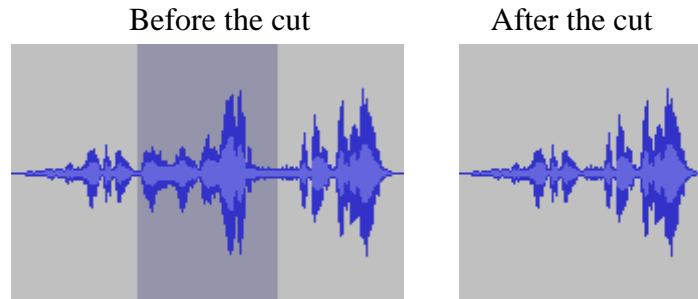
To *extend* or *contract* your selection, hold down the SHIFT button and click on the area you wish your selection to extend or contract to.

If you click at a spot that is on the right hand side from the middle of the current selection, you will set the right hand boundary of your new selection.



4. Editing the clip

Cut the selection by selecting "**Cut**" from the **Edit** menu ... or press CTRL+X



To undo this operation, select **Undo** in the **Edit** menu or press CTRL+Z. **Copy** will copy the selection to the clipboard.

You can then *paste* that data back in to any track by clicking where you want this audio to be inserted and select Paste in the Edit menu, or press **CTRL+V**.

Thus pasting is the opposite of cutting. You can also copy material, make another selection with the mouse and then paste. This will replace the selected material with the contents of the clipboard, no matter how short or long either of the clips..

During all operations of this kind, the bottom row of the screen will display two things, namely the start time and the end time of your selection. The display to the left is that called "Project rate:" and its value, defaulting to 44100, can be changed by clicking on that number and selecting another from the drop-down menu. This sets the sample rate of everything you produce in audacity.

Material drawn from Audacity tutorials and Audacity wiki (see links below).

Resources:

1. Audacity Site: <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>
2. Audacity Wiki: http://audacityteam.org/wiki/index.php?title=Main_Page
3. Audacity Tutorials: <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/help/tutorials>
4. Audacity Online Manual: <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/manual-1.2/>
5. Gcast: <http://www.gcast.com>
6. Podomatic: <http://www.podomatic.com>
7. Podango: <http://www.podango.com>