Settings for Audacity 2.X.X

Download, Install, and Access MP3 Encoder

- Download 2 Files: (1) Audacity, and (2) LAME MP3 Encoder to your computer. http://audacity.sourceforge.net/download/
- Extract and install Audacity.
- Install LAME Encoder into Audacity, or extract the LAME encoder first, then copy the whole LAME MP3 Encoder folder or just the encoder *lame*.dll to the Audacity folder or **Audacity** > **Plug-Ins**. Note: Actually, you can install the LAME MP3 Encoder anywhere if you can find it later.
- Follow the next session (Part 2) to access LAME encoder (Preferences > File Formats > Find Library (Old Versions) or File > Export > Options.

Part 1: General Settings for Recording and Playback in Audacity

- Launch Audacity, go under File > Preferences or Apple > Preferences and click the Audio I/O tab.
 - (1) Playback: Speakers or your headphone name
 - (2) Recording: (1) Stereo Mix for audio through both your microphone and speakers, (2) Microphone name for mic only, or (3) Sound Mapper (?) for your speaker only. Note: You may have to set a recording device as default via the Speaker icon in the Windows Taskbar.
 - (3) Channels: Mono

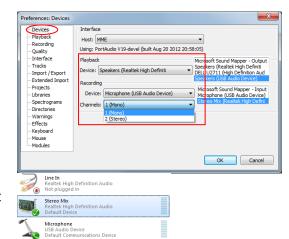
Note: If there is still no audio, you may need to change Playback and Recording Device through your system tray/Control Panel. Set **Channels to 1** (Mono) to make file smaller, **2** for CD/DVD.

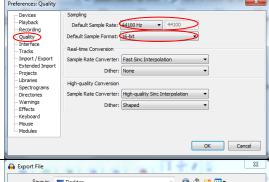
 Under the Quality tab, set Sample Rate to 44,100 Hz; Sample Format to 16-bit.

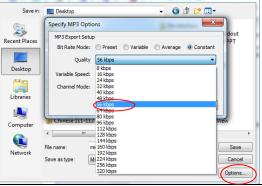
(Set **Sample Rate** to **22,100 Hz, Mono, 16-bit, 48kps** to make file smaller if you accept your recording quality.)

 In the newer version, you can only set the Bit Rate when you do MP3 export and select a quality (File > Export > Options > Quality).

(To keep file size smaller, **56 kbps** should be good enough for voice recording with a USB microphone. You may set it to 32 and compare audio quality.)





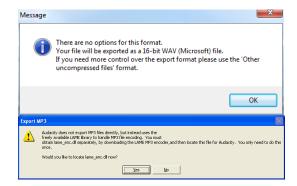


Suggestion for Making Small Audio Size:

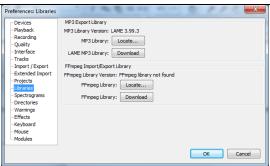
mono, 44,100 Hz, 16-bit, 56-64 kbps (128 kbps is good enough for music CD)

Part 2: Configuring LAME MP3 Encoder

There are two ways to find LAME MP3 encoder in Audacity: (1)
Edit > Preferences..., (2) File > Export > Options.... Click OK.



2. Click the **Locate**... button (in Preferences: Libraries) or **Options** (in File > Export > Options), and browse to the folder containing the LAME encoder.



3. Select the **LAME** encoder and click the **Open** button.



 In the newer version, you can only set the Bit Rate when you do MP3 export and select a quality (File > Export > Options > Quality).

(To keep file size smaller, **56 kbps** should be good enough for voice recording with a USB microphone. You may set it to 32 and compare audio quality.)

