A Guide to Using CDex

Introduction

Welcome. This guide aims to help you get the most out of <u>CDex</u>, a high-quality and convenient audio CD ripper for Windows.

Keep in mind this guide is rather rough at present but will be updated as time allows.

Note: The current focus is on encoding to MP3. Later revisions will see a modularized approach which will cover superior formats such as Ogg Vorbis and MPC.

In keeping with CDex's philosophy, this guide focuses on providing inexperienced users with a strategy that is straightforward and easy to deploy. In other words, if an overly laborious tweak will give you a theoretical, insignificant increase in quality, I will not advocate that approach.

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Things to get

You need to download and save the following:

1. CDex 1.51, from the <u>CDex download page</u>.

- 2. LAME 3.90.3 stable bundle *[lame-3.90.3.zip]* from the <u>Rarewares</u> <u>MP3 page</u>.
- For Windows NT/2000/XP only: Nero's ASPI manager, wnaspi32.dll [skip this if Adaptec's ASPI layer is successfully installed]

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Things to do

- 1. Install CDex 1.51.
- Extract *lame_enc.dll* from the LAME 3.90.3 stable bundle *[lame-3.90.3.zip]* into the CDex directory, overwriting the existing version.
- For Windows NT/2000/XP only: Copy Nero's ASPI manager, wnaspi32.dll, to your CDex directory [do NOT do this if Adaptec's ASPI layer is successfully installed.]

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Main window

🍓 CDex V	/ersion 1.50	
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit	<u>Convert</u> Tools CDDB Options Help	
	🕪 🖗 🕅 🕨 💷 💷 🍙 TOSHIBA CD-ROM XM-1702BC 💽]
Default		
Artist	no artist Genre Unknown	0
Album	no title Year	0
Name	Track Start T Play Ti Size Status	<u> </u>
		C,
		Q
		٢
Press F1 for	r help on the CDex audio C \mid 0 track (0.00 MB) Free disk space 1261 MB	11.

Fire up CDex. You should be presented with the above window.

Now either press **F4** or the above button circled in red. This will bring up CDex's configuration dialog. Click on the *Generic* tab.



Generic settings

CDex configuration	×				
Generic Filenames CD Drive Encoder Local CDDB Remote CDDB					
Temp directory					
File Tag options					
ID3 Tag Version					
Tag comment field					
Encoded-by field					
Normalize Volume					
□ Normalize To 90 😴 % If signal is < 90 😴 %					
To 98 ★ % If signal is > 98 ★ %					
Automatic shutdown after ripping / encoding Digital CD Playback					
OK Cancel Help					

- Temp directory: This has to be on a drive or partition that has the most amount of free space. Click on the circled button and select a folder [such as *D:\temp*]
- ID3 Tag version: I strongly recommend you stick with *ID3-V1*, unless you have CDs with very long track and/or artist names, in which case you may want *ID3-V1 & ID3-V2*, available further down the list.
- 3. Track number format: select *O N* here.

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Filenames settings

CDex configuration	×			
Generic Filenames CD Drive Encoder Local CDDB Remote CDDB				
Output filename format and directories				
Filename Format 2 1 - 22/27 - 24 ?				
Filename Artist - Title\Track Number Leading 0 - Track Name				
WAV -> MP3 D:\songs\ 2()				
Recorded Tracks D:\songs\ 2				
Char Subst Split trackname to Artist, Track using split character:				
Playlist File Name Format				
File Name Artist - Title\Title				
Type CAdd Files to M3U playlist CAdd Files to PLS playlist				
OK Cancel Help				

- Filename format: type in %A %2\%7 %4 [or
 %A\%2\%7 %4.] Note the screenshot needs updating.
- WAV -> MP3 and Recorded tracks: select the folder in which you wish you save your MP3s [for instance, D:\songs].
- Split trackname to Artist, Track using split character: Tick the checkbox. Use / as the separator, if it isn't already filled in for you.
- File Name format: Type in %A %2\%2 [or %A\%2\%2.]
 <u>Note the screenshot needs updating</u>.
- 5. Add files to M3U playlist: Tick the checkbox.

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CD Drive settings

EDex configuration						
Generic Filenames CD Drive Encoder Local CDDB Remote CDDB						
CD-Rom TOSHIBA CD-ROM XM-1702BC						
Read Sectors	26	Number of Retries	0			
Read Overlap	7	Block Compare	1			
Start Offset (sectors)	0	CD Speed	0			
End Offset (sectors)		Spin up time (sec)	0			
CD-ROM Drive Type	Generic	_	Auto-Detect			
Ripping Method Paranoia, Full						
Swap Left and Right Channels 🔽 Lock CD during extraction						
Eject CD when ripping has been completed 🧠 🔽 Enable Jitter Correction						
Select All CD Tracks (by default)						
✓ Use CD-Text (if available)						
		OK	Cancel	Help		

- 1. Ripping method: select Paranoia, Full.
- 2. Use Native NT SCSI library: For Windows NT/2000/XP

only un-check the box.



Encoder settings

CDex configuration					
Generic Filenames CD Drive Encoder Local CDDB Remote CDDB					
Thread Priority					
Encoder Lame MP3 Encoder (version 1.28, engine 3.90 MMX)					
Don't delete ripped WAV file after conversion Encoder Options					
Version MPEG I 🔽 Bitrate Min 128 kbps 💌 Max 320 kbps 💌					
Mode C Stereo C J-stereo C Forced Stereo C Mono					
🗖 Private 🥊 🗖 Checksum 🧮 Original 📄 Copyright					
Qualityalt-preset standard 🔽 🗹 On-the-fly MP3 Encoding					
VBR Method VBR-Old ABR (kpbs)					
VBR Quality VBR 2 🔽 Output Samplerate 🗍					
OK Cancel Help					

- Encoder: select Lame MP3 Encoder (version 1.32, engine 3.90 MMX). Note the screenshot needs updating.
- 2. **Quality**: select *--alt-preset standard*.
- 3. **Output sample rate**: Select *Auto*. Do **NOT** change anything else.



Remote CDDB settings

CDex configuration					
Generic Filenames CD Drive Encoder Local CDDB Remote CDDB					
Remote Server freedb.freedb.org http 80 (freedb, Random freedb server)					
Location freedb, Random freedb server					
Address freedb.org Path /~cddb/cddb.cg					
Protocol HTTP (default port 80) Port 80					
Your E-mail address email@address.net Timeout (seconds)					
Use Proxy Proxy Port 80					
Authentication Password					
Auto connect to remote CDDB					
Add Site Query Sites Reset All Submit Options					
OK Cancel Help					

- 1. Your e-mail address: Enter an e-mail address. It need not be your real one as long as it follows the username@domain.com format.
- 2. Timeout (seconds): Type in 60.



Ripping a CD

💊 CDex Version 1.50					
<u>File E</u> dit <u>C</u> onvert <u>T</u> ools C <u>D</u> D	B Option	is <u>H</u> elp			
		🚴 ТОЅНІВ/	A CD-ROM XM	1-1702BC	•
D-fach					
			~		
Artist Indus Creed			 Genre	Bock	- 01
			aciiic	Inock	
Album Indus Creed			 Year	1995	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	[,	(🖓)
Name	Track	Start Time	Play Time	Size	Status 🔰 🗡 🛒
Trapped	01	0:00.00	3:47.50	38.30 MB	•
Sleep	02	3:47.50	4:46.00	48.11 MB	· 🖓
New Day	03	8:33.50	5:03.25	51.03 MB	· · ·
Thrown It All Away	04	13:37.00	5:22.62	54.31 MB	·
Best Friend	05	18:59.62	3:15.13	32.83 MB	· ·
Fly	06	22:15.00	4:34.00	46.09 MB	. 2
Ciy	07	26:49.00	3:51.62	39.00 MB	· 💼 ·
Celibate	08	30:40.62	4:49.00	48.62 MB	- MM
Play	09	35:29.62	4:14.13	42.76 MB	· 1 🛁
Book Of Dreams	10	39:44.00	4:40.50	47.21 MB	
Pretty Child	11	44:24.50	4:36.25	46.48 MB	. (💷)
La companya di seconda di se				-	
Press F1 for help on the CDex audio C 11 track (494.74 MB) Free disk space 1265 MB					

- 1. Insert your CD. If you're connected to the net, press *Remote FreeDB Query*, else enter its details manually.
- Select all tracks by pressing Ctrl+A. Hit F9 or Rip to Compressed File.

Now you're ripping!