

TAPE OP MAGAZINE

How To Get Your Tunes Posted

by Terry Walker

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[webgrrrl's note: instructions are for PC/Windows users, please contact author for additional info]

You've just burned your first cd from your Roland or other DAW, and now you want to set the world on fire, or post them for fellow Planetears to hear, so what next?

First you need MP3 software to convert that shiny disc into an MP3, and store it on your hard drive so you can upload it to a server somewhere in cyberspace. I personally use Musicmatch Jukebox Plus. It's the paid version, which costs around \$20 or so online, or you can buy it at Best Buy, and other computer/software related stores. Online Musicmatch offers a free version for trial, which can be use as long as you want. Read all about it at www.musicmatch.com.

Step One. Download Musicmatch Jukebox at their website, and install it like any other program. Set MMJB as your default player, it should prompt you.

Once installed, pop in a cd into your cd player in your computer. MMJB should automatically pop up and play the song/cd you just put in. If not, open MMJB and click on the CD button on your upper right in the MMJB player box. Click on the tune. If the song starts to play, then click stop. Then click on the little red record button. The track(s) will load into the recorder. Type in the names of each track(s), and click record. The song should default into you're "My Music" folder inside of your "My Documents" folder. The song files are automatically converted into MP3's. Within MMJB you can convert them to .wav files also.

Next step is to find a site that will host your MP3's. First of all I'd like everyone to take advantage of becoming a VS Planet Artist. Tracknotes alone is worth the price, plus you'll be eligible for airplay on VSPlanet Radio coming soon. But for those not ready to join just yet, there are other places to host for free with no frills. Of course we've all heard of MP3.com. There you can host three tunes for free, but it can take up to two weeks or longer to be able to hear the songs you posted. It's a great site to keep a few songs posted on, because everyone's heard of them. Next on my favorite's list is www.1sound.com. This is a cool site, and you can upload five songs, and hear them as soon as they're done uploading. But songs uploaded to 1sound must have the ID tags removed. This isn't a problem when uploading your tunage (as Timster would say) to the VSPlanet Artist's Page. ;) Here's how to remove the ID tags...

ID tags as far as I can tell contain information other than the song itself. For example, album art, song titles, track info, etc. For posting at some sites such as 1sound they have to be removed. Do this:

1. In your MMJB music library, find the song. Highlight the song and right click on that line. Cursor down to "Remove Tags". Boom! you're done. Tagged song files usually are removed from you library folder, and placed into the MMJB library folder entitled "Title". Normally when you record a song in MMJB it will prompt you to name the song and artist. It will default into a folder named after the artist/band your named it. With the tags removed it will automatically be put into the "Title" folder, or you can decide where it is stored on your HD. Also when first recording the song (tagged) with name, and artist info, it will have a green box with a music note inside it, when viewed in your MMJB library screen. That means the song is tagged. In the "Title" folder in the library, the songs will have a white box before it.

2. Go to www.1sound.com and register. Or any other site like www.iuma.com (can't remember if tags have to be removed there or not).

3. Once registered, log in, and go to your Admin page. Click on Song Administration, and click on the button on the right "Add New". Then you fill out the "Tag" info, i.e., song info. Click submit, then an upload screen appears. Click the upload song file button. Find the MP3 on you hard drive. Look in My Docs/MyMusic/title. Or Artist name folder if you didn't have to remove tags. Double click on the song file, and then click on upload.

4. Be patient. If your still using the dial-up modem Pezboy, you might have a wait. I have a cable modem, and songs usually upload in around 3 minutes or so. When registering you'll be given a URL, such as mine www.1sound.com/gaws. Just remember, register as your band/artist name that you want in the url. Then from the VSPlanet thread or MP3 forum, just add the URL in the text box after typing your post about the tune.

I'm always hanging out at the VSPlanet: www.vsplanet.com, if anyone has questions, look me up there, or email me at GAWSDigitalUnderground@charter.net.

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