

Platinum mp3 Maker

Review by Rob Campion

Product Information

- MP3 Maker Platinum by Magix Computer Products International Corp.
- MAGIX Entertainment is a leading producer worldwide for Personal Rich Media-Applications for the PC and the Internet. The company was founded in Munich in 1993 and maintains branch offices in Berlin, Dresden, Los Angeles, London, Paris, Netherlands, Italy and Sweden. The products range from Personal Rich Media applications with audiovisual content to complete interactive music and video productions.
- \$27.99 at Amazon.Com, \$29.00 at Best Buy {online order only}. Not available at Staples or Office Max.

Introduction

MP3 Platinum is designed to work with music files. Predominately mp3. It has some of the same abilities as it's sister program Audio Cleaning Lab. The music editor is more detailed.

System requirements

- Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT, Windows ME, Windows 2000 or Windows XP
- PC Pentium 300 processor or better (Pentium recommended)
- 64 Mbytes RAM recommended
- Color screen 800x600 resolution with at least 16 bit (preferable 24-bit) graphics
- 100 Mbytes free hard disk space.
- CD-ROM or DVD drive preferably 4x or faster
- Microsoft® compatible Mouse

Installation

Install went very well, without any "Blue Screens of Death". Icons were created on the program menu. The program has its own uninstall.

Features

- Edit and archive
 - o Music editor for perfect sound editing
 - o Sound effects: Revere, stereo enhance, fun FX and compressor
 - o 10 Band EQ for personal sound design
 - o Re-designate and edit mp3 names
 - o Import and Export:
 - o Find mp3 files and download directly from the Internet {seems to be ftp only}
 - o Import: mp3PRO, mp3, WAV, WMA, ASF, REAL, OGG VORBIS and music CDs

- Export
 - o mp3PRO, mp3, WAV, WMA, OGG VORBIS and Music CDs
 - o Song to e-mail: Send directly from the program
 - o Supports portable mp3 players.
 - o This program supports ogg vorbis

Documentation

There is a short video that shows you some basic “How To” . The accompanying manual consists of 87 PPG’s. The manual covers the program in detail. There is a very thorough help with the program itself.

Support

Although I did not need any support, it is available over toll calls for \$3.00 for the first min and \$1.50 each minute thereafter.

Summary

With the advent of the MP3 format, it is now possible to copy as much as ten hours of music to a CD. This compression format allows one to copy a song from the Internet in a small amount of time. Previously it would take over 4 hours on a dial up connection were the song not compressed. MP3 has revolutionized how we now listen and store music.

The recently introduced mp3PRO format represents another significant step forward with its ability to further reduce file sizes by up-to half again and maintain almost the same quality than its predecessor. The bit rate changes from 128 to 92

This means that mp3 playback devices and storage systems can now store up-to twice as many tracks as previously possible. However not all CD players or computer systems will be able to translate the MP3 Pro format. You would have to look into this to avoid some frustration and disappointment.

Magix MP3 Maker Platinum gives you everything you need for quick and easy editing of MP3s in one program. Compile playlists, rip CDs or burn music CDs from existing MP3s for your hi-fi system at home or in your automobile. Each playlist title, no matter what the format or bit rate is, is automatically converted to the desired uniform format.

Magix MP3 Maker Platinum allows you to listen to worldwide radio. There are more than 150 stations preset, you can simply select your favorites and browse the worldwide airwaves for great tracks to record instantly from the station. The music editor enables individual analogue tracks to be re-edited, including level adjustment and maximizing. MP3s from the Internet can be checked, repaired and tonally improved. Professional effects such as reverb, echo, stereo enhancer, compressor and equalizer are also there to optimize sound. This is a good MP3 toolkit. With this and the accompanying Audio Cleaning Lab one should be capable of making some pleasurable personal music