

honestech[™]
Audio Recorder[™] **3.0 Plus**

User Guide



End User License Agreement

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1. Introduction

1.1. What is honestech™ Audio Recorder™ 3.0 Plus

honestech™ Audio Recorder™ 3.0 Plus allows you to keep the audio from your cassettes and LP records permanently by converting them to MP3, MP3 CDs, and audio CDs. You can also reduce unwanted noise or static, and the built-in normalizer and digital amplifier will help control the volume. Users can split the tracks automatically by letting the software detect the muted sections.

1.2. Main Features

- **Wizard Mode**
Follow the on-screen instructions and convert audio from cassettes and LP records to MP3, Audio CD, or MP3 CD.
- **WAV , MP3 Recording**
Record your audio into WAV or MP3 format in real-time.
- **Audio Conversion**
Convert WAV files into MP3 format.
- **Noise Reduction**
Reduce unwanted noise or static.
- **Audio Normalizer**
Control irregular volume by by increasing or decreasing as needed.
- **Digital Amplifier**
Increase audio volume for Cassette Digitizer with low output volume.
- **Audio Editing**
Split audio clips and remove unwanted segments.
- **Auto Track Split**
Automatically separates audio tracks.
- **ID3 Tag support (MP3)**
Add artist name, album name, and song title information to your MP3 file.
- **USB Cassette Player**
A true plug-n-play device that digitizes audio while preserving the quality.
- **CD Burning**
Convert captured audio files into audio CDs or MP3 CDs.

1.3. System Requirements

- Operating System:
Windows XP Service Pack 2/3, Windows Vista, Windows 7
- USB 2.0 Host Controller/Port
- Processor:
Intel® Pentium® 3 800 MHz or higher
- Memory:
256MB of RAM
- Free Hard Disk Space
70MB for program installation and 4GB for Audio Editing
- Other:
DirectX 9.0 or higher
Windows Media Player 6.4 (or higher)
CD Writer for Audio CD, MP3 CD
- Input File Formats:
WAV, MP3
- Audio Output Formats:
WAV, MP3, MP3 CD, Audio CD

1.4. Software Components

honestech™ Audio Recorder™ 3.0 Plus has 2 modes:

1. Easy Wizard Mode

Follow on-screen instructions to record audio from your cassette or LP record players and create MP3s, MP3 CDs, or audio CDs.

2. Advanced Mode

Users can control the volume and edit audio tracks in detail. The advanced mode is composed of the following 3 steps.

- 1) Record
- 2) Edit
- 3) Publish

2. honestech™ Audio Recorder™ 3.0 Plus Installation

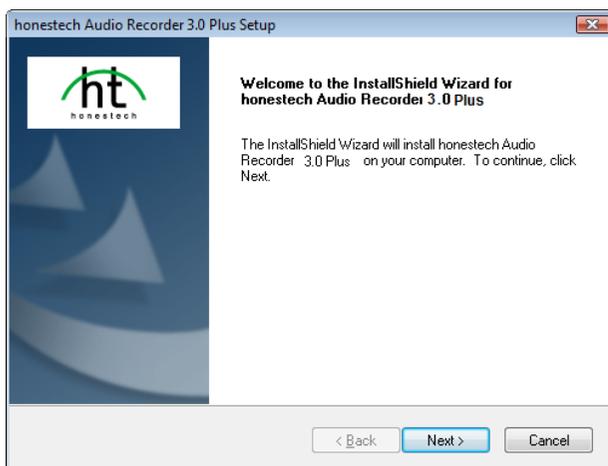
2.1. Installing honestech™ Audio Recorder™ 3.0 Plus

2.1.1. Insert the installation CD into your CD/DVD drive on your computer.

2.1.2. The installation process will start automatically.

Note: If the installation does NOT start automatically, double-click on “Setup.exe” file on the installation CD to begin the installation process.

2.1.3. Click **[Next>]** to continue the installation.



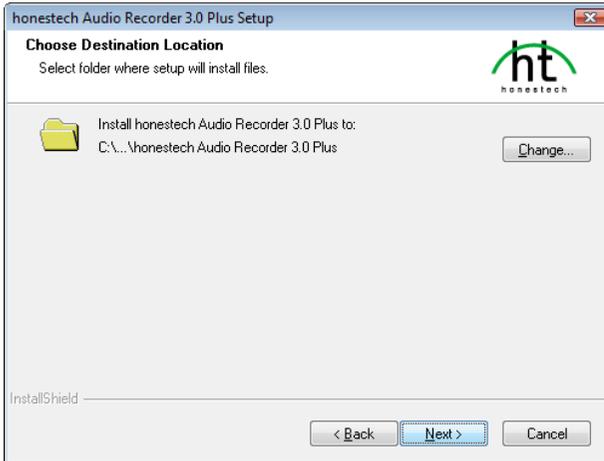
8. honestech

2.1.4. Read the License Agreement.

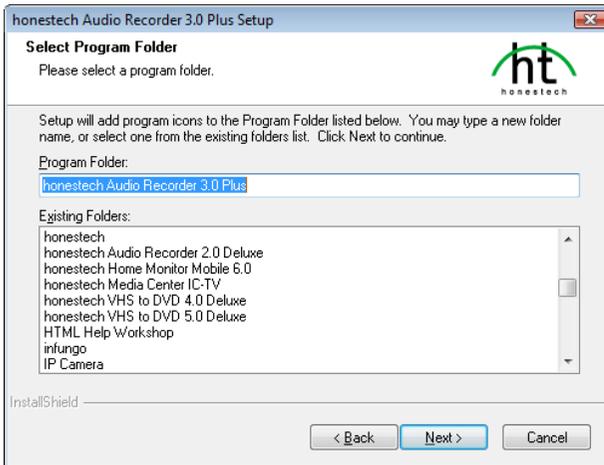
Click **[Next >]** after accepting the License Agreement to continue with the installation.



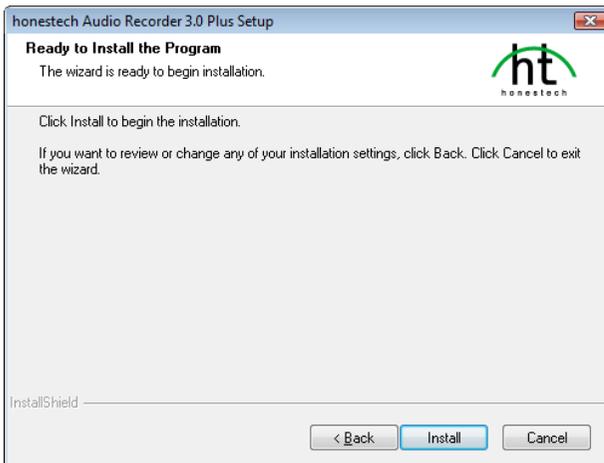
2.1.5. Click **[Change...]** if you want to install the software in a different folder. Click **[Next >]** to continue with the installation.



2.1.6. Accept the default program folder or create your own program folder by entering a new folder name. Then click **[Next >]** to continue with the installation.



2.1.7. Click **[Install]** to start installing the software with the current setting. If you want to change the setting, click on **[<Back]** to go back to the previous screen.

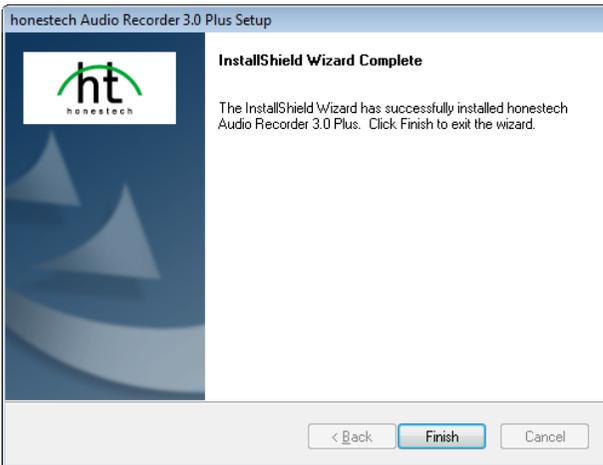


10. honestech

2.1.8. Setup status screen will display the installation progress. Please wait for completion.



2.1.9. Click on **[Finish]** to complete the installation.



3. Using *honestech*™ Audio Recorder™ 3.0 Plus



You can start *honestech*™ Audio Recorder™ 3.0 Plus by simply double-clicking on this icon.

Or you can start the program through the **Start** menu button by clicking

Start → All Programs → *honestech* Audio Recorder 3.0 Plus → *honestech* Audio Recorder 3.0 Plus

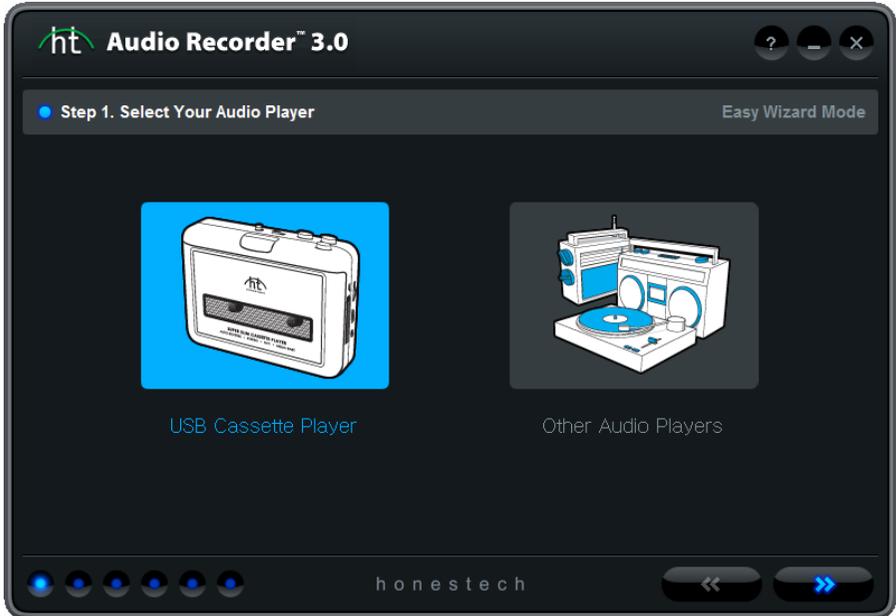
Following screen will be displayed when the program starts.



3.1. Easy Wizard Mode

You can start Easy Wizard Mode by clicking “**Easy Wizard Mode**” on the main screen.

3.1.1. Step 1. Select Your Audio Player



- A. Select [**USB Cassette Player**] option to record cassettes.
 - a. Please refer to the section 3.1.1 A for further instructions.
- B. Select [**Other Audio Players**] to convert from other audio players such as turntable, 8-track or others.
 - a. Please refer to the section 3.1.1. B for further instructions.

3.1.1.A Step 1. Connect the USB Cassette Player.



Connect the USB Cassette Player to your PC using the USB cable.

Note: The USB cassette player does not require batteries when it is used with honestech Audio Recorder 3.0 Plus. The cassette player draws power through the USB cable when connected to a PC.

3.1.1. B Step 1-1. Connect Your Audio Device



1. If your audio playback device has RCA Line-Out connectors, please use an RCA to 3.5mm audio cable.
 - A. Connect the RCA connectors to the Line-Out (NOT "Line-In") connectors on your audio playback device.
 - B. Connect the 3.5mm connector to the Line-In or Microphone jack on your computer.
2. If your audio playback device has headphone jack, please use a 3.5mm to 3.5mm audio cable.
 - A. Connect one end of the audio cable to the headphone jack on your audio playback device.
 - B. Connect the other end to the Line-In or Microphone jack on your computer.
3. If you are using an external audio capture device, please refer to the user guide for that device.

3.1.1. B-1. Step 1-2. Select Your Audio Capture Device



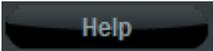
Select Your Audio Capture Device (i.e. Mic, Line-In or your sound card)

3.1.2. Step 2. Volume setting



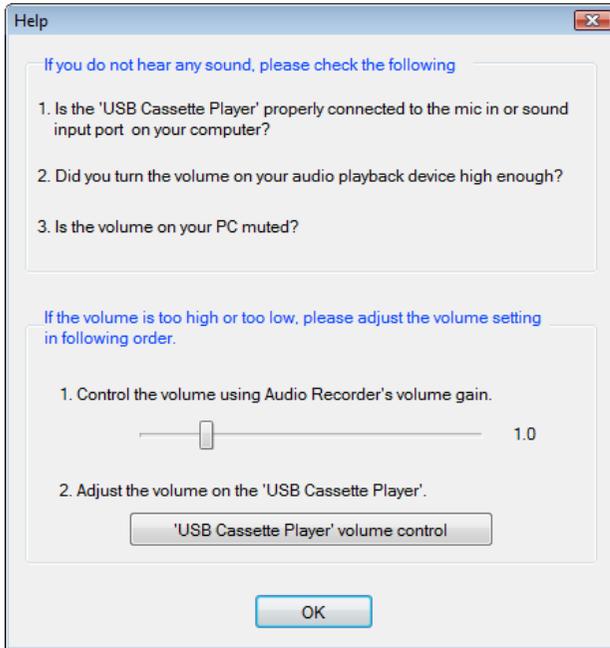
Adjust the volume on your Cassette Digitizer for best audio quality. Set your recording levels so they do not exceed the red area beyond. Rare occurrences are acceptable, but continual playback in red may result in distorted sound.

Note: The Cassette Digitizer must be playing audio.

1. : Help button

Click on the button to view the help document.

3.1.2.1. Help



You can control various volume settings at the hardware level or software level.

1. Adjust the volume on the USB Cassette Player.
2. Adjust the recording volume.
3. Adjust the master volume on your Windows OS. This does not affect the recording.

3.1.3. Step 3. Record settings



You can turn the noise reduction option on/off and select the output folder.

1. Noise Reduction : Noise reduction option.
Reduces static or hiss during recording.
2.  : Output folder setting.
Select a folder where the recorded audio tracks will be stored.

3.1.4. Step 4. Record



Prepare for recording.

- Step 1. Rewind the position of the music player to the point where you want to record.
- Step 2. Enter album name.
This album name will be used as prefix for your output file, and is limited to 30 characters or less.
- Step 3. Play your Cassette Digitizer and click on the **Start Recording** button
- Step 4. Click the **Stop Recording** button, and a recorded track in MP3 format will be created.
If the track size is over 2GB, it will be split into 2 or more files.

1. : Recording time setting

Set the recording time, and the recording will stop automatically after pre-defined time (HH:MM:SS).

Maximum time is 23:59:59 (23 hours 59 minutes and 59 seconds).

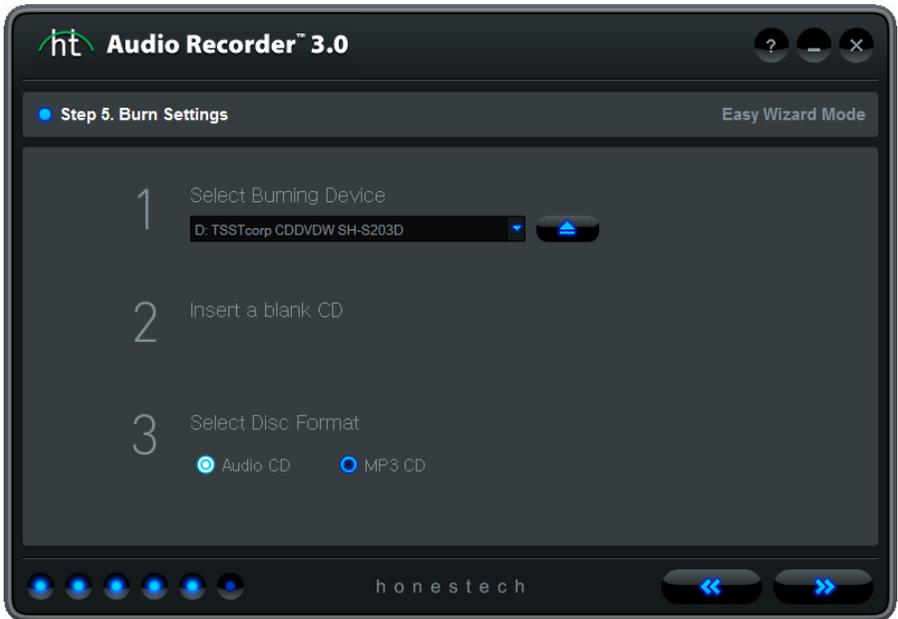
If you do not set the recording time, you will need to stop the recording manually by clicking on the **Stop** button

2. : Record button

Play your Cassette Digitizer and click on the **Record** button to start recording. Once the recording begins, the **Record** button will change to a Stop button. When you click the **Stop** button, the recording will stop.

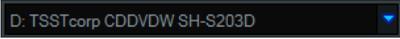
3. : Recording status
Displays the recording status (only when the “Set Recording Time” option is used).

3.1.5. Step 5. Burn settings

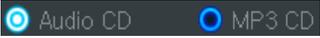


Select a burning device (CD/DVD writer) and output format.

- Step 1. Select a burning device from the list of available CD/DVD writers on your PC.
- Step 2. Insert a blank CD.
- Step 3. Select your output disc format (Audio CD or MP3 CD).

1. : Select CD/DVD writer
Select a burning device from the list of available CD/DVD writers on your PC.

2. : Eject button
Eject the tray.

3. : Output format option
Select the output format (default setting : audio CD).

3.1.6. Step 6. Burn CD



Getting ready for CD burning

- Step 1. Create a list of audio tracks to be burned onto the CD.
- Step 2. Burn the audio files to CD.

1. : Add / Remove buttons

Add or remove audio files from the list.

2. Click in the “Track Name” field and enter the song title / track name.

3. : Available disc space.

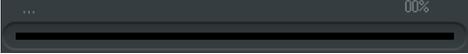
Displays the amount of available space remaining on the CD.

The red mark indicates that the required space exceeds what is available on the CD.

If the red mark appears, you will need to remove one or more audio files from the list.

4. : Burn button

Click to start burning.

5. : Burning status

Displays the burning progress.

3.2. Advanced Mode

You can start the Advanced Mode by clicking “**Advanced Mode**” on the main screen.

3.2.1. Record



In the Record phase, you can adjust the input volume and reduce unwanted noise or static. The audio is recorded in WAV format, but you can convert it into MP3 format.



Adjust the volume bar on the screen or your Cassette Digitizer for best audio quality. Set your recording levels so they do not exceed the red area beyond. Rare occurrences are acceptable, but continual playback in red may result in distorted sound.



1.  : Record button

Click to record the audio from your Cassette Digitizer .

2. : Stop button

Stop recording. Recorded tracks will be added to the list as shown below.

File	Play Time	Size	Format
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  My Music_105010.wav	00 : 00 : 54	9.09 MB	44100Hz 16bit Stereo

3. : Selection box

Place a check mark in the box next to each audio track you wish to convert or burn to CD.

4. : Options button

Adjust various recording settings.

5. : Publish button

Adds the selected audio tracks to the burn list and opens the **Publish** window.



- 6. : Recording volume

Controls the loudness of your audio by increasing or decreasing the volume.



- 7. : Recording time setting

Set the recording time, and the recording will stop automatically after a pre-defined time (HH:MM:SS).

Maximum time is 23:59:59 (23 hours 59 minutes and 59 seconds).

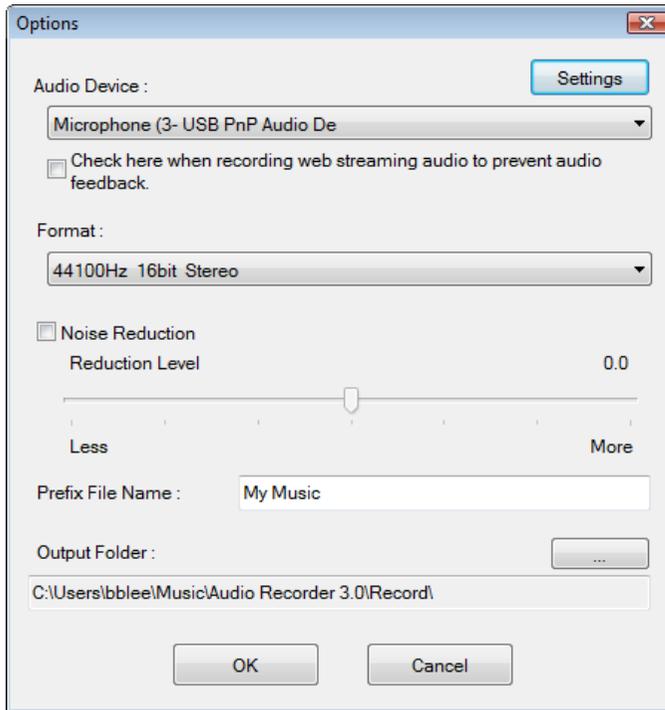
- 8. : File status

Displays the track length and size during the recording.

- 9. : Recording status

Displays the recording progress (only when the "Set Recording Time" option is used).

3.2.1.1 Options

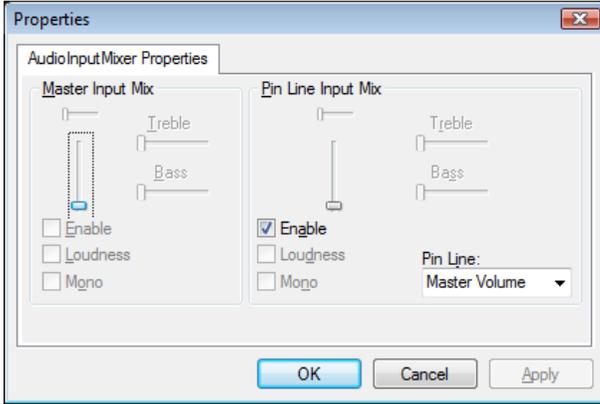


These options allow you to select a recording device, audio quality, noise reductions, etc.

1. : Capture device setting
Select a recording device from the available devices.

- 2. : Capture device setting

Adjust the volume for the capture device.



- 3. : Audio format setting

Select the audio quality format for your recording



- 4. : Noise reduction setting

Adjust the noise reduction setting to eliminate unwanted background noise or static.

- 5. : Prefix file name setting

The name you enter will be the prefix for all output file names.

- 6. : Output folder setting

Select output folder where recorded audio files will be saved to.

3.2.2. Edit



Once all your videos In the Edit phase, you can edit the WAV files you have captured. You can also import and edit existing WAV files.



You can split tracks manually or automatically using the “Auto Split” option. You can add various special effects to your audio recordings.

1. : Open File button

Add recorded WAV files to the list or import pre-existing WAV files.

2. : Auto Split button

Searches for the gaps in between songs and automatically creates split marks for each track. This eliminates the need for the long editing process required to split the tracks manually.

3. : Clear button

Undo "Auto Split" and merge the tracks back into a single file.

4. : Split button

Splits the audio file into multiple tracks marked by split marks.

5. : Zoom In / Out / Fix Window buttons

Zoom in and out, or view the entire waveform at once.

6. : Play / Pause / Stop buttons

Play the selected segment or pause / stop the playback.

7. : Start / End position buttons

Jump to the start or end position.

8. : Rewind / Forward buttons

Rewind or fast forward (in 5 sec units).

9. : Play Time display
Displays the current location and the total playback time.

10. : Volume control

Controls the playback volume.

11. : Effect button

Add various effects to the audio file. Select one of the following options to choose from. Please refer to the Effects section for detail.

Amplify
Normalize
Noise Reduction
Fade In/Out

12. : Undo button

Undo all the effects you added to the audio file.

13. : Selection box

Place a check mark in the box next to each audio track you wish to convert or burn to CD.

14. : Publish button

Add selected audio tracks to the burn list and open the **Publish** window.

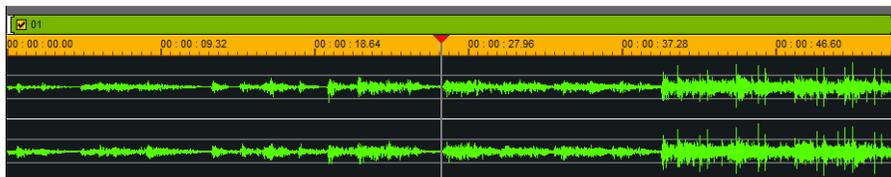
3.2.2.1 Split options

- Step 1. Import WAV file to be edited.
 - Click and browse for WAV file that you want to edit.



(After importing one WAV file)

- Step 2. Click on the waveform where you want to split your tracks, and a split line will be added as shown below.



The split line can be moved or adjusted by clicking and dragging anywhere on the line.

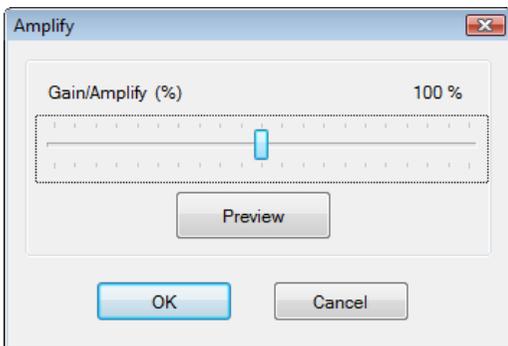
3.2.2.2 Adding effects

You can add the following effects to your audio tracks.

- 1) Amplify
- 2) Normalize
- 3) Noise Reduction
- 4) Fade In / Out

- The first three effects will be added to the entire track while “fade in/out” will be applied to selected sections only.

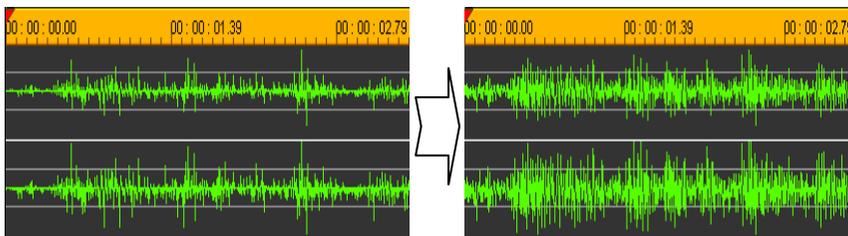
- Amplify



The digital amplifier allows you to increase or decrease the volume level for the select audio track. Click the **Preview** button to check it before finalizing the effect.

- Normalize

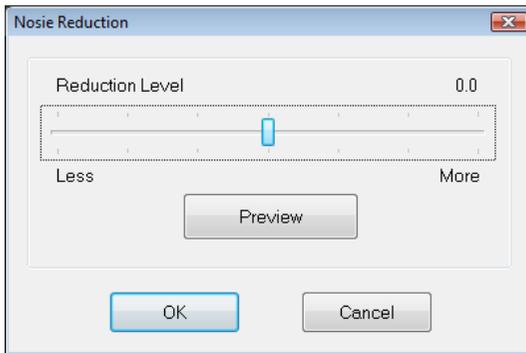
Use the digital normalizer to control irregular volume.



(Before)

(After)

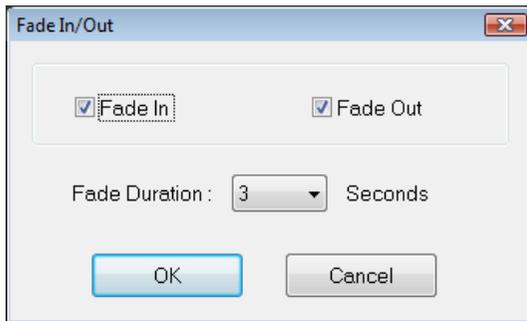
- Noise Reduction



You can reduce unwanted noise or static from recorded audio tracks.

1. Adjust the noise reduction level and click the **Preview** button to check the result.
2. If acceptable, click **OK** to apply the effect.

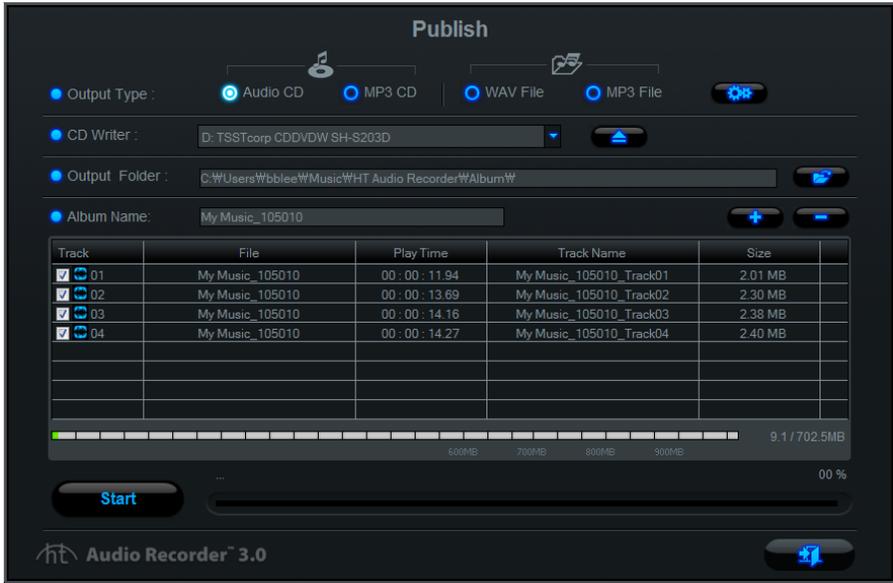
- Fade In/Out



You can apply **Fade In/Out** to the beginning and end of the audio clip.

- Fade In
Slowly increase the volume for the selected duration.
- Fade Out
Slowly decreasing the volume for the selected duration.

3.2.3. Publish



Convert audio files into WAV, MP3, MP3 CDs, or audio CDs.

1. Audio CD MP3 CD WAV File MP3 File : Output format option

1) Audio CD:

- Create audio CD using the selected audio files.

2) MP3 CD:

- Convert selected audio files into MP3 files and burn them to MP3 CD.

3) WAV File:

- Convert selected audio files into WAV files.

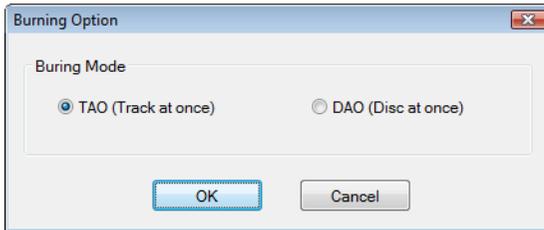
4) MP3 File:

- Convert selected audio files into MP3 files.

※ ID3 Tag information (album name, song title and year) will be added to the MP3 files.

2. : Options button

1) Audio CD:

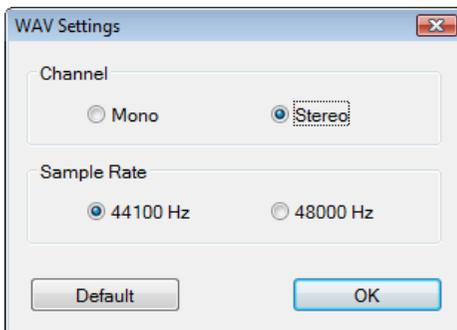


Select a burning mode

- TAO (Track at once): Burns one track at a time; 2-second gap is created between the tracks.
- DAO (Disc at once): Burns all tracks at once; no audio gap is created between tracks.

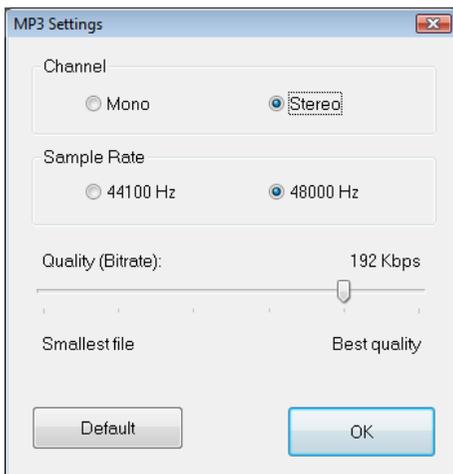
Note) Some older CD players may not play CDs burned in DAO mode. TAO mode is recommended if you have an older CD player.

2) WAV File:

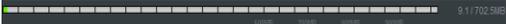
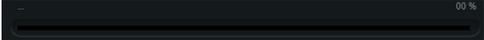


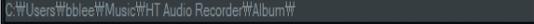
Select the channel and sample rate settings.

3) MP3 CD and MP3 File



Adjust the MP3 file settings including the channel, sample rate and bitrate settings.

3. : Eject button
Eject the tray of CD/DVD writer.
4. : Output folder setting
Select an output folder.
5. : Add / Remove buttons
Add or remove tracks from the burn list.
For MP3 files, the ID3 Tag information will be shown in the Track Name field.
6. : Start button
Begin the burning / conversion process.
7. : Close button
Close the **Publish** window.
8. : Available disc space status
Displays the amount of available free space remaining on the CD.
A red mark will indicate that the required space exceeds the space available on the CD.
If you see the red mark, you will need to remove one or more audio tracks from the list.
9. : Burning status
Displays the burning progress.
10. : Select burning device

Select a CD/DVD writer.
11. : Output folder setting

Select a folder where the converted tracks will be saved.
12. : Set Album Name

Enter an album name*. If the MP3 file already has an album name in its ID3 Tag, the album name will be entered automatically.
* Use 30 characters or less (this will be used as CD label also).

-  Help : View Help files.
-  Minimize : Minimize the screen.
-  Exit : Exit the program.

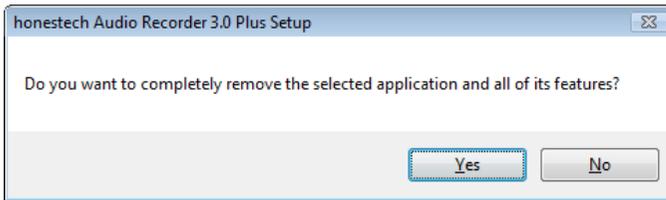
4. Uninstall *honestech*™ Audio Recorder™ 3.0 Plus

1. Find its program group

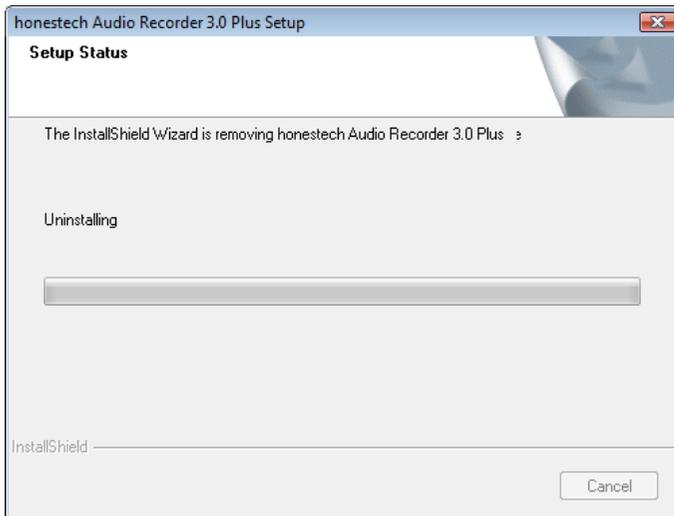
Start → All Programs → *honestech* Audio Recorder 3.0 Plus → Uninstall *honestech* Audio Recorder 3.0 Plus.

2. Select **Uninstall *honestech*™ Audio Recorder™ 3.0 Plus**

Please click **[Yes]** to uninstall.

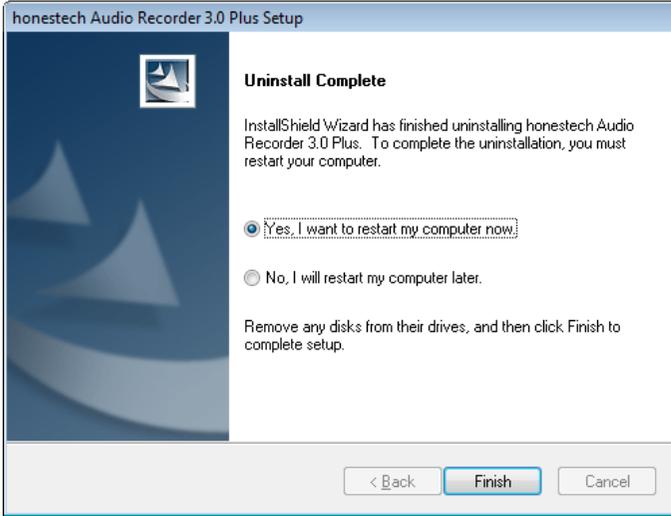


3. Uninstalling progress.



4. Uninstall Completed

You will see a screen confirming a successful completion. Please click **[Finish]** to finish the process.





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