

Index of Topics

[Main Window](#)

[Menu Commands](#)

[Creating a Program](#)

[Disc Database](#)

[Product Information](#)

[Product Support](#)

Main Window

The main window allows you to play CD audio tracks, enter disc information, and eject discs. The main window contains the following items:

Artist, Title

Displays the artist and disc title of the CD. You can enter or modify these values whenever the disc is in the drive. The values are saved in the disc database and is re-loaded anytime you insert the disc.

Tracks

Displays the number of tracks on the current CD. If a disc program is currently in use, this will be the number of tracks in the program.

Length

Displays the total length of the current CD in minutes and seconds. If a disc program is currently in use, this will be the total length of the program.

Track Buttons (1, 2, ...)

The numbers which appear on the track buttons correspond to track numbers on the current CD, or to selection numbers in the current program if a disc program is in use. Click on a track button to start audio playback at that track. If the current CD or disc program has more than 10 tracks, then 10 buttons will be displayed along with a vertical scroll bar which can be used to view the rest of the tracks.

Track Arrows

A horizontal red arrow points to the current track. If the current track has scrolled away from the track display, then a red arrow points up or down to indicate the direction of the current track relative to the track display. Clicking on the up or down arrow will scroll the window back to the current track.

You can click and drag the horizontal red arrow onto a track button to position the CD-ROM drive at that track.

Track Titles

Displays the titles of the CD's audio tracks. You can enter or modify these values whenever the disc is in the drive. The values are saved in the disc database and are re-loaded anytime you insert the disc.

When a CD is playing, the current track is indicated by yellow highlight.

Track Lengths

Displays the lengths of the CD's audio tracks in minutes and seconds.

Play/Stop

Starts and stops playback of the current CD. When you insert a CD, playback starts at the first audio track, or at the first program selection if a disc program is in use. When you stop a CD, the CD player remains at its current position, so that a subsequent Play command will resume playback where it left off.

Eject

Ejects the current CD. If you have made any changes to the disc information, you will be asked if you want to update the disc database.

Shuffle/Un-Shuffle

Shuffle rearranges the playback order of tracks into a random sequence. Un-shuffle restores the original order.

Current Track

Displays the position within the current track in a scroll bar, and in minutes and seconds.

You can click and drag the scroll bar to reposition playback. If the disc is playing, then playback continues at the new location. If the disc is not playing, then the disc head is positioned at the new location; clicking the Play button will start playback at that point.

See Also

[Creating a Program](#)

[Disc Database](#)

Menu Commands

Disc menu

Program

Use Program

Save Disc Info

Copy Tracks to Clipboard

Register

Select CD-ROM Drive

Exit

Program command (Disc menu)

Use this command to create or modify a disc program for a CD. The program you create is saved in the disc database and is re-loaded anytime you insert the disc.

See Also

[Creating a Program](#)

[Disc Database](#)

[Use Program Command \(Disc menu\)](#)

Use Program command (Disc menu)

If this command is checked on the menu, then CD Audio will play audio tracks according to the currently defined disc program. If the command is not checked, then tracks will be played back normally. This command is disabled if no program is defined.

This setting is saved in the disc database and is reloaded anytime you insert the disc.

See Also

[Creating a Program](#)

[Disc Database](#)

[Program Command \(Disc menu\)](#)

Save Disc Info command (Disc menu)

This command saves any disc information changes you have made to the disc database.

See Also

[Disc Database](#)

Copy Tracks to Clipboard command (Disc menu)

This command copies the artist, disc title, and track titles of the current CD to the clipboard. If a disc program is in use, then the track titles of the program selections are copied.

You can paste the track titles into a word processor or spreadsheet and print them out, e.g. to create a cassette label for a home recording.

Register command (Disc menu)

This command allows you to enter your personal CD Audio registration number, giving you unrestricted access to all CD Audio features. You can purchase a registration number from the author,

The Registration dialog box contains the following items:

Name

Enter your name *exactly* as it appears on your registration.

Serial Number

Enter your serial number *exactly* as it appears on your registration.

This command is only available in the unregistered version of CD Audio.

See Also

[Registration](#)

Select CD-ROM Drive command (Disc menu)

Allows you to choose among multiple CD-ROM drives attached to your system. Running this command brings up the Select CD-ROM Drive window, which contains the following items:

Available CD-ROM Drives

Displays the list of available CD-ROM drive letters on your system. If you have multiple drives, CD Audio will select by default the first CD-ROM drive in the system. To select a different drive, click on the drive letter in the list box, then click the OK button. Alternatively, you can just double-click the drive letter in the list box.

OK

Selects the drive letter in the list box as the current CD-ROM drive. This choice will be saved in the disc database so that the next time you run CD Audio, it will go directly to this drive.

Cancel

Cancels the window and leaves the current drive unchanged.

This command is only available on systems that have more than one CD-ROM drive installed.

Exit command (Disc menu)

Exits CD Audio. If you have made any changes to the disc information, you will be asked if you want to update the disc database.

If a disc is playing when you exit, it will continue to play afterwards. A disc will also continue to play if you exit Windows and return to DOS. However, rebooting your machine will reset the CD-ROM drive, stopping playback.

Creating a Program

A disc program is a rearrangement of a CD's audio tracks. You can use a program to play a disc's audio tracks in an order that you choose, or to play only some of a disc's audio tracks. The program you create is saved in the disc database and automatically re-loaded anytime you insert the disc (see [Disc Database](#)).

You create and modify programs in the "Disc Program" window. It contains the following items:

Available Tracks

Displays the list of audio tracks which are not currently included in the disc program. If you haven't entered the actual track titles in the main window, then the default track titles Track 1, Track 2, etc. will be displayed. If the program already uses all of the disc's audio tracks, then this list will be empty.

Tracks appear in this list box in the same order as they appear on the disc.

Tracks Remaining

Displays the number of tracks available for use in the disc program.

Time Remaining

Displays the combined length of all tracks available for use in the disc program.

Current Program

Displays the current disc program. If there is no program, then this list will be empty.

Tracks Used

Displays the number of tracks in the disc program.

Time Used

Displays the combined length of all tracks in the disc program.

Add

Adds a track to the disc program. To add a track to the end of the program, simply double-click the track in the Tracks Available list box. To add a track to any other position, select the track in the Tracks Available list box and click the Add button (see [Adding a Track to a Disc Program](#)).

When you add a track to the program, it is removed from the Tracks Available list.

Add All

Adds all remaining tracks to the disc program, in order. This is useful if you want to start with the regular track ordering and just make a slight change to it.

Fit to Tape

This button allows you to fit audio tracks into a certain length of time, e.g. onto one side of a cassette tape. When you click this button and type in the number of minutes of music you want; CD Audio will take as many tracks as it can from the Tracks Available list box (starting at the beginning of the list) and append them to the disc program in order. If the current program is too long to fit into the time you specify, then CD Audio will remove as many tracks as necessary from the end of the program to make it fit.

Remove

Removes a track from the disc program. To remove a track, select it from the Current Program list box and click the Remove button, or double-click the track in the Current Program list box. When you remove a track from the program, it is removed from the Current Program list and inserted back into the Tracks Available list in its proper position.

Remove All

Removes all tracks from the disc program. This deletes the disc program and reverts to normal playing order.

OK

Saves changes made to the disc program and returns to the main window. The program is saved in the disc database at this time.

Cancel

Cancel changes made to the disc program and returns to the main window.

Disc Database

The disc database contains information on all of your CD's. It holds the following items for each disc:

- Artist
- Title of disc
- Track titles
- Disc program

All of these items are optional. You can enter or modify the items any time a disc is in the CD-ROM drive. The values stored in the database will be automatically re-loaded each time you insert the disc.

The disc database is stored as a text file named CDAUDIO.INI in your Windows directory. This file is completely compatible with MUSICBOX.INI, the disc database used by the MusicBox application; you can import or export data between the two files using Notepad or any other text editor. It's nice to exchange disc databases with your friends, because then both of you can save time by not having to type in disc information for discs you have in common.

Registration

An unregistered version of CD Audio contains all the features of the full version, except that it will stop CD playback every 20 minutes and present you with this message. You may copy and distribute the unregistered version freely.

You may use the unregistered version on an evaluation basis for two weeks. If you like the program, please send \$20 to the author, and you will receive a personal registration number through email or regular mail. This makes you a registered owner of CD Audio and gives you unrestricted access to all its features. You will also be entitled to free upgrades to the software through Compuserve.

To fill out an order form, do the following:

- Run the Order Form command on the Help menu.
- Fill in your name, address, and how you would like to receive your registration number (E-mail or regular mail).
- Click the Copy to Clipboard button. This will copy your order form to the clipboard.
- Paste from the clipboard into Notepad or a word processor and print the order form.
- Mail the order form, along with a check for the proper amount, to the address shown on the form.

If you decide not to purchase a registered copy of the software, then you must delete the unregistered version after the two week evaluation period has elapsed.

Product support for CD Audio is available via email or U.S. mail (see [Product Support](#)).

If you don't like this program, or you feel that the price is too high, I also want to hear from you. Please contact me by email or U.S. mail and let me know your opinions.

Contact information:

Mark E. O'Brien
27 Trowbridge Street #2
Cambridge, MA 02138

Compuserve: 70312,303
Internet: 70312,303@compuserve.com

Product Support

Product support for CD Audio is available via email or U.S. mail. Please contact me to report bugs, request new features, or obtain more detailed product information.

If you are reporting a bug, please include the following:

- An exact description of the problem.
- A list of your system's hardware and software.
- A copy of the file CDAUDIO.LOG. This is a file in your Windows directory where CD Audio logs information when an error occurs. This file can get quite large (about 8K bytes per error), so if you are sending it by email you should compress it first using PKZip or LHArc. You can delete this file from your hard disk anytime you want to.
- A copy of your disc database (CDAUDIO.INI), if applicable.

CD Audio can prevent some errors by simply resetting your CD-ROM drive during its startup process. This is totally safe, but it does cause a slight delay during startup. If you are experiencing problems, especially problems in starting CD Audio, then try adding the ResetOnStartup flag to the [Settings] section of your CDAUDIO.INI file. Values for this flag are:

- 0 do not reset on startup
- 1 always reset on startup
- 2 reset on startup only if there is a CD in the drive
- 3 reset on startup only if there is no CD in the drive

For example, the following lines in CDAUDIO.INI would cause CD Audio to reset the drive every time it starts up:

```
[Settings]
ResetOnStartup=1
```

Contact information:

Mark E. O'Brien
27 Trowbridge Street #2
Cambridge, MA 02138

Compuserve: 70312,303
Internet: 70312,303@compuserve.com

Product Information

The user interface and all the high-level code for CD Audio is written in Visual Basic, and is in the file CDAUDIO.EXE. Several auxiliary files are required:

- CDAUDIO.HLP, the CD Audio help file
- QUICKCD.DLL, a CD-ROM interface toolkit.
- VBRUN100.DLL, the Visual Basic runtime environment
- VBUTIL.DLL, a few random utility routines that must be in C (e.g. calls to the C library functions)

The following auxiliary files are required, but may already be installed on your system:

- THREED.VBX, 3-D push buttons used in CD Audio. If you have installed the Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Toolkit, then you already have this file.
- TOOLHELP.DLL, a library of diagnostic routines. If you are running Windows version 3.1 or above, then you already have this file.

QUICKCD.DLL is the most interesting of these auxiliary files. CD Audio runs under Windows 3.0 or 3.1, and does not require the Multimedia Extensions for Windows; this is because it contains its own CD-ROM routines, which call the Microsoft CD-ROM Extensions (MSCDEX) directly. Why bother, you ask? Because the CD audio driver which ships with Windows is really slow, buggy, and a pain to use. So I wrote my own.

Quick-CD provides access to both audio and data CD's in the Windows environment. I am selling a toolkit for Quick-CD which contains the runtime DLL, header files for C and Visual Basic, and sample code. Please contact me if you are interested in this product.

Source code for CD Audio is also available; please contact me if you are interested.

Contact information:

Mark E. O'Brien
27 Trowbridge Street #2
Cambridge, MA 02138

CompuServe: 70312,303
Internet: 70312,303@compuserve.com

Adding a Track to a Disc Program

If you want to add a new track to the beginning or in the middle of a disc program, then you use the "Add Track to Disc Program" window. You get there by clicking the Add button in the "Disc Program" window (see [Creating a Program](#)).

The window contains the following items:

Track

Displays the track which you are adding to the disc program.

Insert after which track

This is a list box containing the current disc program. To insert the new track after a track already in the program, select the track in the list box and click the Insert button, or just double-click the track in the list box.

To add the new track at the beginning of the disc program, double-click the first entry in the list box, which is a special entry called "<Start of Program>".

Insert

Adds the new track to the disc program, after the track which is selected in the list box. This has the same effect as double-clicking the track in the list box.

Close

Closes the window without adding the new track to the disc program.

