

# MP3-Info CMM Read me!

Version 1.4 (Universal for PowerPC- & Intel-Macs)

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<http://www.cdfinder.de/mp3info/index.html>

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## What is MP3-Info CMM?

MP3-Info CMM is a Contextual Menu Module designed for Mac OS X (version 10.2 or newer). That is essentially an extension to the Finder.

It displays information about MP3 files, such as their duration, the bitrate, and also some important MP3-Tags, such as the artist, the title of the song, and some more, all directly inside the Finder, without the need to open any application to get this information! That can save you a lot of time when have to manage MP3 files often. It also shows these information for AAC files created by iTunes 4, and WAV, and AIFF files.

## How to install MP3-Info CMM

To activate the MP3-Info CMM, just copy the file "MP3-Info CMM.plugin" into the folder "Contextual Menu Items" inside the "Library" folder in your home directory. If such a folder doesn't exist, you can just create it. If an older version of MP3-Info CMM exists already, it has to be deleted first, and then the Finder restarted (or log off and back in again...). As MP3-Info CMM requires Mac OS X 10.2, it will not work in Mac OS 9.x or earlier.

## How to deactivate MP3-Info CMM

Just drag the file "MP3-Info CMM.plugin" from the "Contextual Menu Items" folder to the Trash. That's it. The MP3-Info CMM will go away after the next launch of the Finder.

## How to update to a newer version

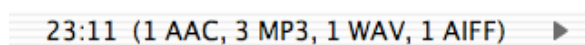
Just delete the old file "MP3-Info CMM.plugin" from inside the "Contextual Menu Items" folder, and place the new one there. It requires the Finder to be quit and launched again to activate the new version, though.

## What does MP3-Info CMM cost?

Well, it's free!! Just use it and enjoy. This is only possible because MP3-Info CMM uses the MP3 code that I have already written for CDFinder. CDFinder is a very powerful disk cataloger application for Mac OS (9.0 or newer, and also Mac OS X, of course!) that can not only read the MP3 file details, but a lot of other information as well, such as the contents of several archive types (Stuffit, Compact Pro, ZIP, TAR, Apple Installer). To find out more about CDFinder, just visit <http://www.cdfinder.de> and download the test version.

## What information does the MP3-Info CMM display?

If you have multiple files selected in the Finder, MP3-Info CMM will show the total duration of all selected, valid, audio files (of any type, MP3, AAC, WAV, or AIFF), and also the number of any such file detected by the MP3-Info CMM. It looks like this:



23:11 (1 AAC, 3 MP3, 1 WAV, 1 AIFF) ▶

If you have exactly one single MP3/AAC/AIFF/WAV file selected in the Finder (or even in Sherlock, or any other application that supports CMMs!), and you activate the context menu for this file (you know how to do that, yes? Simply hold the Control-Key when you click!), a new line will appear in that context menu. Depending of the type of the file, it will look similar like this:

MP3 4:24, 128 kbps, 44.1 kHz ▶

The first information says that the file is a valid MP3 file (can also be AAC, AIFF, or WAV). The second information is the duration of the song in minutes and seconds, then the bitrate of the encoding (128 kbps in this sample, MP3 only). Eventually, if the song is encoded using Variable Bit Rate, the text "VBR" will appear here as well. The last information is the sampling rate of the song, in this case 44.1 kHz. (MP3 only)

As a lot of MP3 and AAC files contain extra information, the so-called Tags, MP3-Info CMM will append a sub-menu to this main entry to the context menu. This sub-menu will look like this sample:



The menu items have this meaning:

"Edit MP3-Tags in ID3X"

As MP3-Info CMM can only display MP3-Tags, but cannot change them, this is a shortcut for you to use the ID3X tool to edit the tags. ID3X is Shareware and can be found at: <http://www.three-2-one.de/ID3X/> ID3X can not only edit the tags that MP3-Info CMM displays, but it has a lot of other useful possibilities when it comes to dealing with MP3 files. This item will not appear for AAC files, as ID3X cannot yet edit those tags.

"Tag Version:"

As the meta information about artist, album, and so on is stored inside the so called MP3-Tags, and there are several versions of them, this entry will show you which version the tags displayed actually have.

"Artist", "Compose", "Album", "Songtitle", "Comment", "Encoded by", "Year", and "Track"

These contain the actual tag information, as it appears in the MP3/AAC file. Please note that any of these tags may not be enclosed in the menu if they do not appear in the MP3/AAC file. If you select any of these tags, MP3-Info CMM will copy the content of the tag to the clipboard, so you can use the text for other things.

"Rename to:"

As a whole lot of MP3/AAC files have really wrong names, especially if they are downloaded from the Internet on a system that uses shorter file names (Mac OS 9.x, or DOS), these three menu commands allow you to swiftly rename the file appropriately. If the song title, the album, and the artist appear in the tags, the first menu command will rename the file to a useful combination of the three values. If only the song title and the artist are available, the second option will appear. If a track info and a song title is available, the third command will appear. As you see, the third command always uses a two digit number representation to allow for better sorting.

"Change Creator to iTunes"

As a lot of files have a weird or wrong combination of the essential Filetype/Creator codes, this command will change these so they fit iTunes.

"MP3-Info CMM Version 1.4 (Universal)"

This menu entry shows you the version of the currently active MP3-Info CMM. If you select this command, it will cause your default internet browser to display the MP3-Info CMM home page at <http://www.cdfinder.de/mp3info/index.html>.

"Powered by CDFinder! ([www.cdfinder.de](http://www.cdfinder.de))"

This is just a friendly reminder that MP3-Info CMM was only possible by using the powerful MP3 tag reader code from inside CDFinder. This menu command will point your browser to the CDFinder home page at <http://www.cdfinder.de>.

## What information does MP3-Info CMM display for AIFF and WAV files?

The MP3-Info CMM also displays information about AIFF and WAVE files. That code again comes from CDFinder! As these files have no tags, only the duration and encoding of these types is displayed.

## Legal stuff

The application "MP3-Info CMM" and all included materials are protected by copyright law. You may not disassemble it or modify it with similar tools.

You may copy the program together with all additional documents as often as you want, as long as you don't modify any part of it. You may not sell it or use it commercially in any other way without my written consent.

If you want to distribute MP3-Info CMM on a shareware collection CD-ROM or something similar, you must inform me by e-mail or a written letter. I'd also like to have a copy of the CD-ROM, or the magazine, if possible...

I am in now way responsible for any damage occurring as a result of the use of the software.

## What is CDFinder?

- catalogs any CD-ROM, DVD, hard disk, iPod, floppy, ZIP, Audio-CD, and almost everything that spins
- reads MP3 and AAC tags!
- also catalogs photo meta data, such as EXIF, IPTC, and more!
- very fast and easy to use
- powerful search functions, and browse catalog files offline
- export or print catalog data
- handles large amounts of data
- In a network, multiple users can share the same catalogs
- cross-platform: with CDWinder for Windows!
- import existing DiskWizard, FindIt, Disk Tracker Disk Recall, Catalogue and CatFinder catalog files
- can read Stuffit (versions 3, 4, 5, and even 6.5!), Compact Pro, ZIP, TAR, and Apple Installer (Tome) archive files
- several languages in one application: English, German, French, Italian, Swedish, Dutch, Spanish
- \$30 for a single license, multiple user licenses are available

<<http://www.cdfinder.de>>

Macintosh System requirements for CDFinder:

Mac OS X 10.2 or newer

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