The MP3 requests list

The MP3 requests list is useful if you visit MP3 channels. It makes it very easy to keep track of what songs are available, and to download them.

To find a channel channel that is dedicated to MP3 exchange, do a channel list with cmd-L and enter "mp3" in the Include field and a reasonable minimum number of members, like 20 or so. You can also use the Find and Find Again functions to search in an existing list.

To show the request list, press cmd-M to add it to the list window. If you want to remove it you can do so in the Sound Request preference panel.

nce you've entered a MP3 channel, you will see many messages scroll by very fast. These are typically requests sent by someone to another channel member that happens to have songs available for download. The traffic is typically very high, making it hard to find things and discover who has what

songs available.

A typical request is in the form "!nick song". If nick has the song available, he will then start sending it to the person that sent the message.

The MP3 request list will filter out the song requests that people send to the channel so that you can also request those songs. In a couple of hours in a busy MP3 channel the list may pick up thousands of available songs that you can request with a click of a button.

To specifically search for an artist or song that interest you, most channels support a "@find" or "@locator" function. Type @find and the phrase you are searching for and send it to the channel to ask who has the song available for download.

If someone has it, he will send a private message with instructions on how to retrieve a song. The MP3 request list will pick up this information and you can then easily download the song.

Clicking the Get button will send a normal "!nick song" message to the channel, and if you are lucky the offerer will start sending you the file. If this doesn't happen right away, the offerer may be busy with other clients and will send the file to you later.

Most of the people offering songs are running a particular script that responds to these messages automatically so they have to be formatted just right. The MP3 request list makes that easy.

Most channels place limits on how frequently you can request files. Try to not send a message more frequently than every few seconds. The list supports multiple selection, and will send multiple requests to the channel if you do that and press the Get button.

The songs are sent to you as DCC file transfer (see the DCC chapter for further information) and it may be useful for you to select a folder for MP3 files and select that in the DCC auto receive preferences. Then you can turn on Auto Accept DCC from everyone, and the incoming files will automatically go there.

This is useful because the offerers may have you waiting a while for a popular song that many people have requested. When it finally gets to be your turn, you may not notice that the offerer is now trying to send you the file and it will time out.

Highlighting songs

Because the request list may quickly fill up with a large amount of songs, you

can enter words that you are especially interested in, in the highlight field in the window. When a song in the list contains one of the words it is highlighted in red color in the list so it is easier to see.

Automatic timeout of songs

If you want to only retain songs in the list for a certain amount of time, you can specify a timeout value in minutes in the Sound Request preference panel. The song is then automatically removed from the list after that period of time.