Skwid Audio Recorder Users Manual

Thank you for downloading Skwid Audio Recorder, the best way to listen to and record content from your favorite Internet radio stations as well as your own personal files!

The Skwid Audio Recorder is perfect for an on-demand internet lifestyle, and the ideal companion for any media enthusiast! Have you ever visited a webpage and enjoyed what you've heard? Wanted to save the soundtrack from your favorite PC game or the score from a DVD, but couldn't figure out how? With the click of a button, Skwid will record anything that is playing on your computer, save it in the format of your choice, and allow you to play it back on your PC or MP3 player any time you want to...simple as that!

Skwid Audio Recorder offers the following features:

Internet Radio

- Record any sound playing through your sound driver using Capture function (See details below).

- Use your favorite software to listen to music from your favorite radio station, and capture the music using the Capture function.

- Play back Internet radio stations in MP3 and OGG formats Add the radio station to your favorites list and listen using Skwid. **Note: You must use another software to play if the format is not MP3 or OGG.**

- Record Internet radio shows or a given time span with Timer Control. Timer works when a radio station is added to the list.

- Name the individual songs automatically using the stream information.

- Online update of the radio station list.

- Allows parallel recording of multiple web radio stations **Note: You must have sufficient CPU power and memory as well as disc space to use this feature.**

- Add your own favorite Internet radio station to the list, edit and remove list entries.

- Selective recording filter: Enter your search pattern and Skwid Audio Recorder will record only matching titles.

- Belated recording of the song currently playing.

File Conversion

- Supports MP2, MP3, OGG Vorbis, WAV and WMA file formats.

- Change target audio quality when an audio file is converted into a different format.

- Supports ID3 tags.

- Convert your audio files automatically with a single click.

- Create MP3 files for your favorite MP3 player.

- Convert Internet or personal videos for use on your iPod®.

Skwid

Installation and Opening Screen

1. Before installing Skwid Audio Recorder, you will need to turn off firewalls and/or other security software. A firewall can block this program. After you turn off these programs, restart the computer before installing Skwid Audio Recorder.

2. Select a destination for Skwid Audio Recorder and read and agree to the Skwid License Agreement.

3. After installation, find "Skwid Audio Recorder" in the start\all programs menu on your desktop window and start the program. A desktop icon will also be installed for your convenience. After you start Skwid Audio Recorder, you can turn on security programs such as firewalls. Make sure to give permission to Skwid Audio Recorder to access the Internet.
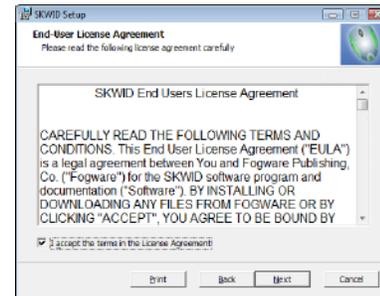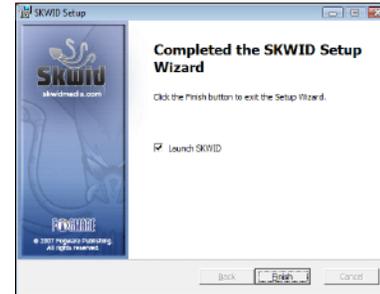
4. You may be asked about searching for updates or additional radio stations. Click "yes" to search for updates or to obtain additional radio stations provided on the Internet. Updates for Skwid will also be posted at www.skwidmedia.com.
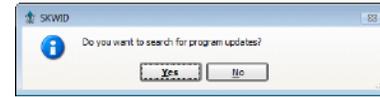
5. Once the program opens you will be brought to the Internet Radio Recorder page (This can be changed under Settings/View). You will see a number of Internet Radio Stations listed in the middle of the page. Once you select a station from the list, all buttons are enabled. Pay attention to the bit rate of each radio station. The bit rate shows the speed of data provided by that particular radio station, the higher the bit rate, the better. You can add more radio stations to this list if the radio station you wish to add does not use a proprietary format. If the station is using a proprietary format, the only way to record the station is to use the Capture mode described below.
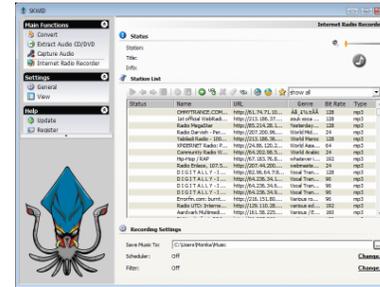
Recording Commercial Radio Stations

Usually commercial radio stations are broadcasting in proprietary formats like RealAudio or Windows Media Audio. Some Commercial radio stations enforce the use of certain player applications. This means that you can listen, but you are prevented from recording these radio streams.

As there is a complex authentication protocol between servers and clients, it is currently not possible to record these Internet radio stations directly. However, Skwid Audio Recorder provides an effective means to record the audio output of these stations from your audio driver. Using the "Capture" function allows you to record any sound going through your audio card.

Capture Audio

How to Record Audio From Any Radio Station

Capture Audio works with any radio station as long as you can hear it through your computer's speakers. If you want to record music from a radio station that cannot be added to the radio station list, use any software to listen to the station. While you are listening to it, start the Capture Audio sequence to capture sound digitally from your audio driver. This method not only works for any radio station, but also any sound source such as AUX, microphone, DVD player etc.
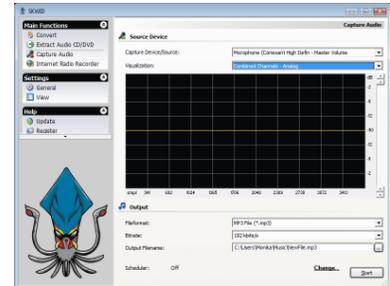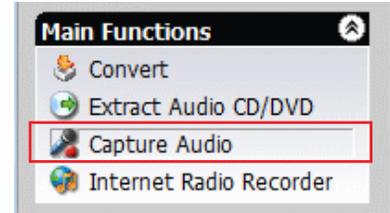
The Capture Function allows you to capture audio data from any source you can play back from your PC. As a rule of thumb, anything you can hear coming from the speakers of your PC can be recorded here. While Audio Capture is running, Skwid Audio Recorder will visualize the recorded audio data with one of various visualization schemes you can choose from. The captured audio can be stored on your hard disk in any of the supported formats and with a file name of your choice. You need to select the format of the audio file in the capture screen.
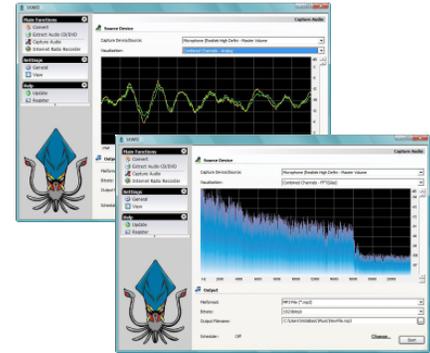
Selecting A Source for Audio Capture

At the top of the window in the Capture Audio screen, you can select the audio source to use for capturing. If you are unsure which source Skwid Audio Recorder should capture, you can try all of them one by one until you find the proper one. The visualization in Skwid Audio Recorder will show you promptly when Skwid Audio Recorder detects a signal. You can also choose from a number of different visualizations, depending on personal preference.

Below the visualization window, you can select which format you would like to use for saving the captured audio. In addition, you can enter the save path and file name as well.
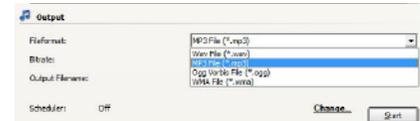
Recording Radio Stations From the Radio Station List

Skwid offers two ways to record a station that you have selected from the station list. The red circle on the control bar is for "continuous recording." The large music note button below the volume control is also a recording button, but this recording mode will shut off automatically when the current song or content ends. During recording, this button will blink.
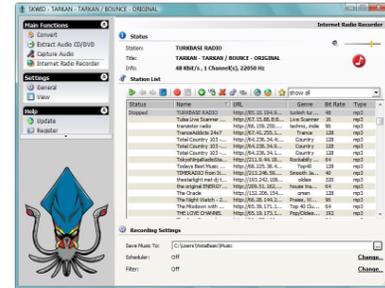
Multiple Station Recording

You may select a second station and start recording while you are recording another station. However, this will not work if your Internet connection is not fast. The use of high bandwidth such as DSL or better is recommended for multiple station recording.

Continuous Recording From Stream

Under Recording Settings the "Save music to" section allows you to determine the location where recorded content will be saved. Make sure you select a disk with enough capacity since continuous recording creates a large music file in a short time.


Scheduler

After you get more familiar with each station and schedule, you can use the "Scheduler" function under Recording Settings to record a selected radio station during a certain time.
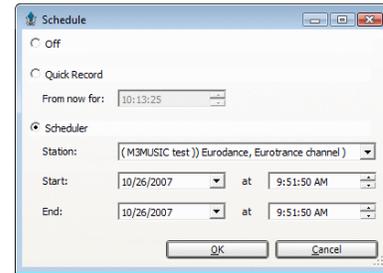
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Convert Video

Skwid Audio Recorder comes equipped with a video converter to make Internet video and your personal video library iPod® ready. Click on "Convert" under Main Functions then click on the disc with a plus sign (+) to select a file to convert. Select the Codec to convert to in the "General" menu under Settings.

Under "Destination" you can select a screen size as well as Low, Medium or High quality for the video.
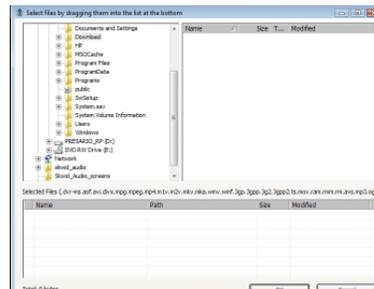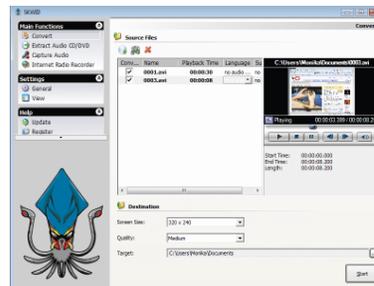
Extract Audio CD/DVD

Use Skwid Audio Recorder to extract content from audio CDs and DVDs.
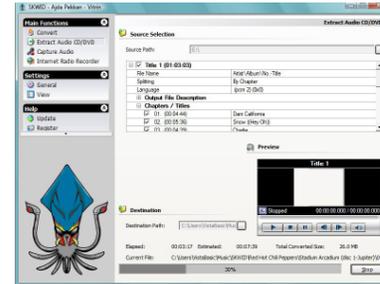

Capture Audio

Use Skwid Audio Recorder to record any sounds playing through your computer's sound card.

In this screen you can choose a number of visualizations while recording. Under Output, select from a number of popular file formats, including Wav file, MP3, Ogg Vorbis File and WMA files.

You can also determine the Bit rate and select the name and destination for the saved file.
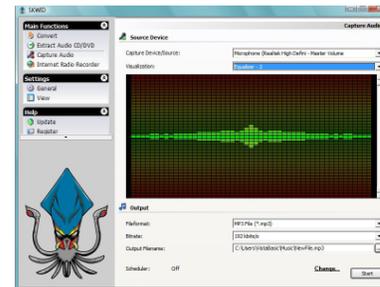
Settings

Click on "General" under Settings to adjust items such as Path naming, Bandwidth, Kbit, and MP3 Client Name.

Here you can also choose video codecs for video conversion as well as make adjustments for Extract Audio CD/DVD functions.

When you click on View under Settings, you can determine which Functions are listed in the Tasks pane on the left, as well as choose which screen will open when Skwid is launched.

Help

Under the Help menu, you will find links to update your Skwid software and info about Skwid. If you are using the free trial version of Skwid Audio Recorder, there are also options to register your copy of Skwid and to buy the software now from www.skwidmedia.com.
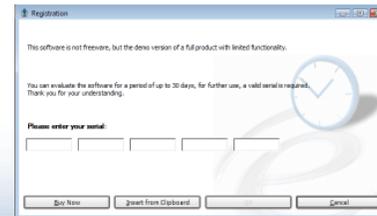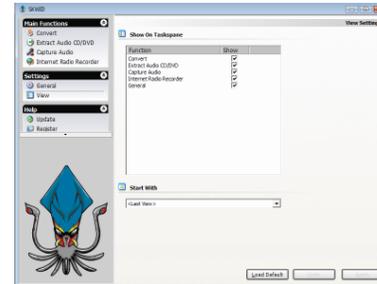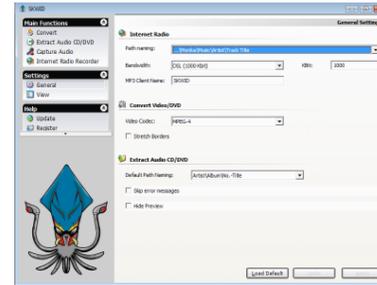
Skwid

Skwid Audio Recorder FAQ

Q - After installing the software, no radio station connects for recording,
it only says "initializing"

A - Disable firewall and any other security program that might block Skwid from
connecting to the Internet. After installation, you can enable security programs,
but you allow Skwid to connect to the Internet when asked.

Q - Using Windows 2000, no sound comes out

A - If you are using Windows 2000, you need to download a specific codec from
ftp.jcresearch.com/skwid/lame_enc.dll and save it in system32 folder in
windows folder.