

Audacity

audacity.sourceforge.net

Free open source audio editor and recorder

what is it?

Audacity, according to its website, is "a free and open source software for recording and editing sounds." This simple to use application enables users to record audio and edit audio clips. Further, you can import audio files recorded elsewhere and edit at will in Audacity. Some of Audacity's features include multi-track mixing, noise removal, multi channel modes and much more.

educational use?

There are a number of educational uses of Audacity but perhaps the most obvious is the ability to record and edit lectures. Similarly, faculty could require students to use Audacity to record themselves doing such things as making presentations. Further, faculty could use Audacity to give audio feedback on student's work in hybrid or online courses (see Chapter 9).

pros & cons?

It's hard to find any drawbacks to using Audacity. It is cross-platform (Mac Os X, Windows and Linux), free, and easy to use.

what's it cost?

Free to use.

alternatives?

Apple's GarageBand (<http://www.apple.com/ilife/garageband/>) and Adobe's Soundbooth (<http://www.adobe.com/products/soundbooth/>) are two alternatives to Audacity. While GarageBand is part of Apple's iLife suite and comes free with all new Macs, Soundbooth must be purchased separately and currently costs about \$200.

resources?

Audacity Help Documentation

<http://audacity.sourceforge.net/help/documentation>

Audacity Tutorials

<http://audacity.sourceforge.net/manual-1.2/tutorials.html>

Audacity Wiki Tutorials

<http://audacityteam.org/wiki>