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Converting audio CDs to MP3 consists of two steps:

- 1. rip the audio tracks from the cd and save them as wave file
- 2. convert the wave files to mp3 files

The tools required for these two steps are cdparanoia and lame. The graphical front-end ripperx can be used which also provides the option to add artist and title details and write mp3 tags.

Installation of the required tools (if graphical front-end is not required, remove ripperx):

```
apt-get install cdparanoia lame ripperx
```

To rip and convert a cd on the command line:

```
cdparanoia -B #to extract only part of a track like time 0:13.13-1:13.00 from track 1, you can use #cdparanoia "1[:13.13]-1[1:13]" for t in *.wav; do lame -b 192 -h -V 6 $t; done
```

Flac to MP3 conversion

To convert lossless FLAC files to mp3, the easiest option is using ffmpeg which will most likely already be installed. This script/command converts all flac files in a directory to MP3 V0 with variable bitrate between 220-260kbps. The resulting compacted audio file cannot be distinguished from the lossless version.

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