

Rip Audio CDs to MP3s

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.

```
#!/bin/bash
for a in ./*.flac; do
  < /dev/null ffmpeg -i "$a" -qscale:a 0 "${a[@]}/%flac/mp3}"
done
```

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