

"Step Sheet: Using Computers to Listen to Music"

Listening to Music

There are several ways that you can use your computer to listen to music. This step sheet will help you understand and use three main options.

Listen to an Audio CD

To insert an Audio CD and listen to the music on it, follow these steps.

➤ **Insert and Play the Audio CD**

Step 1

Press the button on your CD drive tray. The tray should open. Place the audio CD on the tray then either push the button again or gently nudge the tray. If there is no tray but a slot, simply insert the CD into the slot. In either case, the computer will take the CD in and begin to spin it up.

Step 2

Use a player to listen to the music. New Macs come with iTunes, software that plays CD's and other files. If iTunes is not installed on your computer, you can download it free from the software section of Apple's web site. The player may open automatically when you insert the audio CD. If not, find the iTunes application icon on your hard drive and double-click to open. Select the CD from the source list and click the Play arrow to listen.

Access and Listen to MP3 files

To access and listen to an MP3 file, follow these steps.

➤ **Locate and Access the MP3 File**

Step 1

Search for sites with free MP3 files for downloading. MP3.com is one such site. Search available categories, identify a song you wish to listen to, and click one of the available song options, usually low-bandwidth and high-bandwidth, depending on your connection speed.

Step 2

The song will download to your computer, either as a file download (the entire song file downloads onto your hard drive) or as an audio stream (the file is sent to your computer as it plays). In either case,

you can open and listen to the file using iTunes. Open any MP3 file on your hard drive or click to select an MP3 stream in the iTunes window, then click the Play arrow to listen.

Note that you can use iTunes to select an Internet radio station, which will deliver a constant audio stream of their playlist to your computer.