

## Hi-Res Audio Player

This Help Guide explains how to use Hi-Res Audio Player and what you can do with it.

This Help Guide is also available as a PDF, which can be downloaded [here](#).

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### How to Use

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## **Trademarks**

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## **Software license**

- [Software license](#)

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

## Troubleshooting

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### Dealing with problems

#### Symptoms and remedies

- [The device is not displayed in \[Device\] in the \[Preferences\] window.](#)
- [Noise is generated from the device connected.](#)
- [DSD audio files cannot be played on a Mac.](#)
- [\[DSD over PCM\] or \[DSD Native\] is not available for selection in the \[Preferences\] window.](#)
- [Files cannot be moved by drag and drop operation.](#)
- [Music files with the “.m4a” extension cannot be played.](#)

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Features of Hi-Res Audio Player

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“Hi-Res Audio Player” is player software that allows you to play back high-quality audio files with simple operation.

#### **Easy playback of high-resolution audio files**

You can play back high-resolution audio files, such as DSD files, purchased in music distribution sites, etc., by connecting the device to your computer, and making simple software settings.

#### **Playlist function**

You can create playlists to listen to tracks you like in the order you want.  
The playlists created can be saved and edited.

#### **Playing music with higher audio quality**

By storing audio data in the active memory of your computer before playback, the CPU load can be reduced, and you can play back music files with more stable audio quality.

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Installing Hi-Res Audio Player

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First, you must install Hi-Res Audio Player on the computer you are using.

1. Download “Hi-Res Audio Player” from the following Sony service sites.

For customers in Europe:

<https://www.sony.eu/support>

For customers in the U.S.A. and Canada:

<https://www.sony.com/am/support>

For customers in other countries/regions:

<https://www.sony-asia.com/support>

For details on how to install the application, refer to one of the websites listed above.

#### Hint

- To uninstall Hi-Res Audio Player, follow the procedure suitable for your OS that is shown below:
  - For Windows Vista/Windows 7/Windows 8: Select [Control Panel] - [Programs and Features].
  - For Windows 10/Windows 11: Right-click [Start], and then select [Apps & features].
  - For macOS: Open the installed “Applications” folder in the Finder, and then drag and drop Hi-Res Audio Player from the folder onto the “Trash” icon.

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### System requirements

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Hi-Res Audio Player can be used in the following system environment.

#### OS

- Windows 11
- Windows 10 (32 bit/64 bit)
- Windows 8.1 (32 bit/64 bit)
- Windows 8 (32 bit/64 bit)
- Windows 7 (SP1, 32 bit/64 bit)
- Windows Vista (SP2, 32 bit/64 bit)

- macOS Monterey 12
- macOS Big Sur 11
- macOS Catalina 10.15
- macOS Mojave 10.14
- macOS High Sierra 10.13
- macOS Sierra 10.12
- OS X El Capitan 10.11
- OS X Yosemite 10.10
- OS X Mavericks 10.9

#### Note

- One of the above operating systems should be installed by default. Upgraded operating systems and multi-boot environments are not supported.
- We do not guarantee operation for all computers even if they meet the above system requirements. Furthermore, the following systems are not supported:
  - Personally constructed computers or operating systems
  - Upgraded operating systems
  - Multi-boot environments
  - Multi-monitor environments
- The device and the software driver that connects your computer to the device need to support the operating systems listed above.

#### CPU

- For Windows: Intel Core 2 processor of 1.6 GHz or faster
- For Mac: Intel CPU models (64 bit) or M1 chip models

## **Memory**

1 GB or more

## **Screen resolution**

1,024 x 768 pixels or higher

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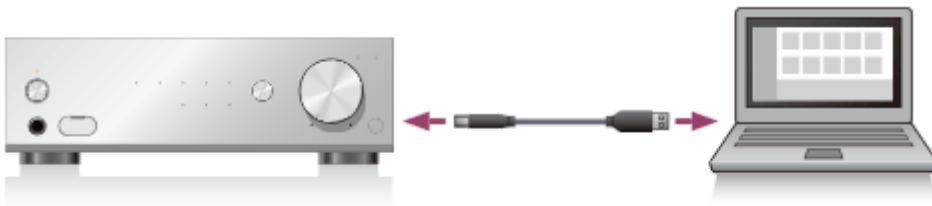


## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Connecting the audio device to a computer

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Connect a USB port of your computer to the USB port of the device using a USB cable.



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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Starting Hi-Res Audio Player/Device settings (for Windows)

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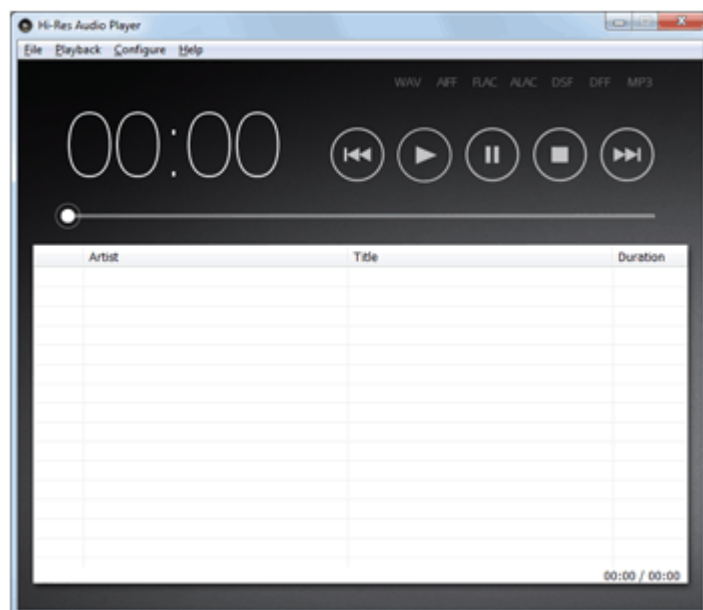
Starts Hi-Res Audio Player, and selects the device you want to use.

**Note**

- Before starting Hi-Res Audio Player, connect your computer to the device you want to use using a USB cable. If you start Hi-Res Audio Player without making this connection first, the device will not be displayed in the window of the application.

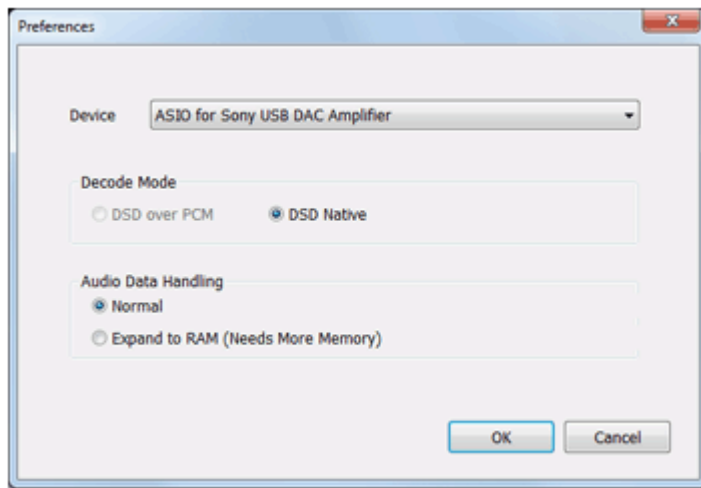
1. Select [Hi-Res Audio Player] from the start menu.

Hi-Res Audio Player starts.



2. Select [Device] from the [Configure] menu.

The [Preferences] window is displayed.



3. Select the device that you connected to the computer from the [Device] drop-down list, and then click [OK].

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Starting Hi-Res Audio Player/Device settings (for Mac)

Starts Hi-Res Audio Player, and selects the device you want to use.

**Note**

- Before starting Hi-Res Audio Player, connect your Mac to the device you want to use using a USB cable. If you start Hi-Res Audio Player without making this connection first, the device will not be displayed in the window of the application.

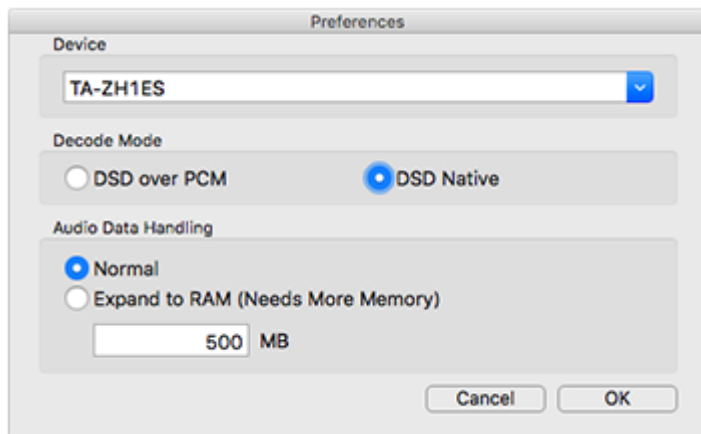
1. Select [Hi-Res Audio Player] from applications.

Hi-Res Audio Player starts.



2. Select [Hi-Res Audio Player] - [Preferences] in the menu bar.

The [Preferences] window is displayed.



3. Select the device that you connected to the computer from the [Device] drop-down list, and then click [OK].

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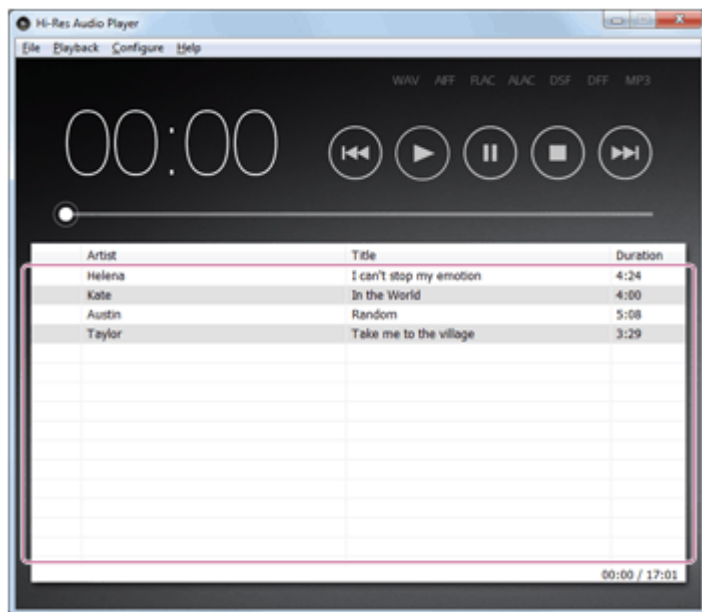
# Hi-Res Audio Player


## Playing music files

You can add music files to a playlist made with Hi-Res Audio Player, and play back those files.


1. Drag and drop music files to a playlist at the bottom of the window.

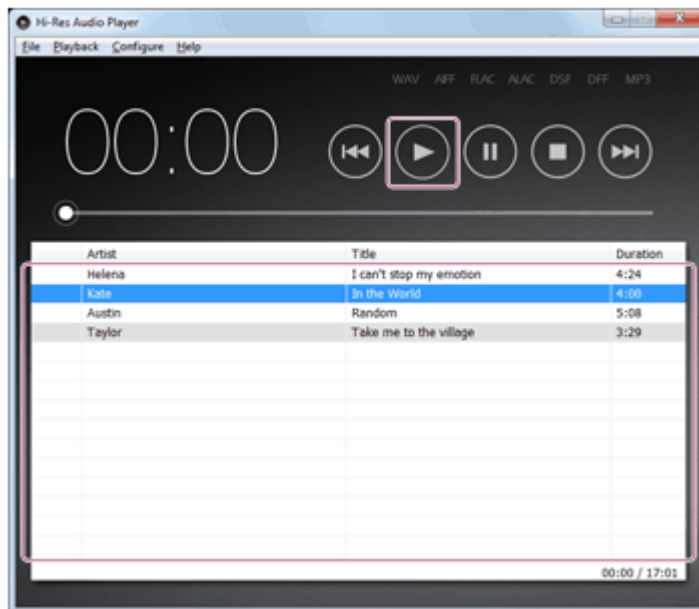
You can also add music files to a playlist by selecting [Add file] from the [File] menu.








2. Select the music file you want to play back, and then click .

Playback of the music file starts.

To stop playback, click .



#### Hint

- By clicking the buttons at the top of the window, you can perform the following playback operations.
  - : Moves to the previous track.
  - : Starts playback.
  - : Pauses playback.
  - : Stops playback.
  - : Moves to the next track.
- During playback, you can move the playback position by dragging the slider on the top of the window.
- You can also play back a music CD by selecting [Open audio CD] from the [File] menu in step 1, and then selecting the CD drive. You cannot save the playlist displayed when you play back a music CD.

#### Related Topic

- [Using the Playback menu](#)
- [Saving playlists](#)
- [Editing Playlists](#)

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

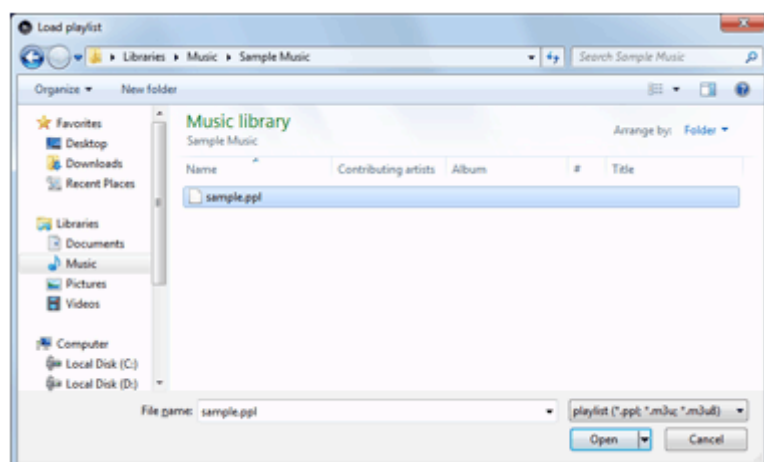
### Playing tracks in playlists

In Hi-Res Audio Player, playlists you have created can be saved.

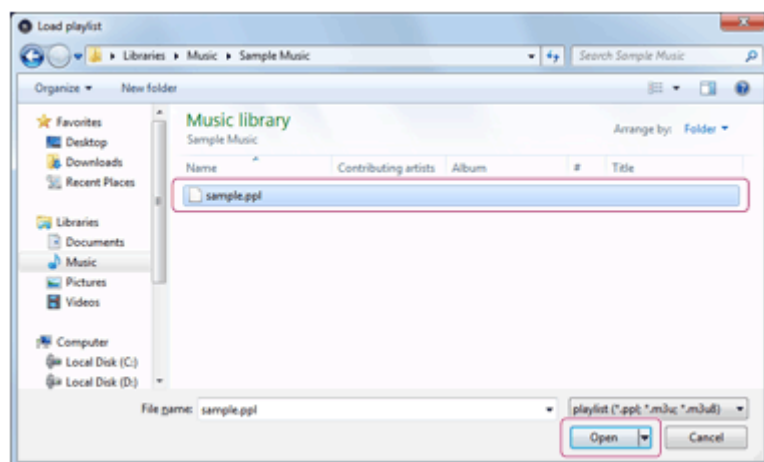
You can also load playlists saved previously, and play back tracks you like in the order you want.

1. Select [Load playlist] from the [File] menu.

The [Load playlist] window is displayed.




2. Select the playlist (extensions for Windows: .ppl, .m3u, .m3u8)/(extensions for Mac: .xml, .m3u, .m3u8) you want to load, and then click [Open].



The selected playlist is loaded.

3. Click .

Playback of music files starts from the file at the beginning of the playlist.

To stop playback, click .



**Hint**

- You can also play back a music file by double-clicking the desired music file.

**Related Topic**

- [Creating playlists](#)
- [Saving playlists](#)

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

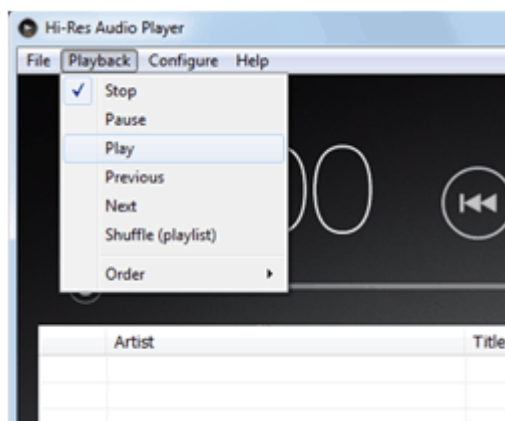
### Using the Playback menu

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Using the Playback menu, you can perform various playback operations.

1. Select the [Playback] menu.

The [Playback] menu is displayed.



2. Select the desired item.

#### Playback menu items

The following items can be selected.

**Stop:**

Stops playback.

**Pause:**

Pauses playback.

**Play:**

Starts playback.

**Previous:**

Moves to the previous track.

**Next:**

Moves to the next track.

**Shuffle (playlist):**

Plays back tracks in a playlist in random order.

**Order:**

You can select the playback mode for repeat play.

- Default: Repeat play is turned off.
- Repeat (playlist): Plays back all tracks in the playlist repeatedly.
- Repeat (title): Plays the currently selected track repeatedly.

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

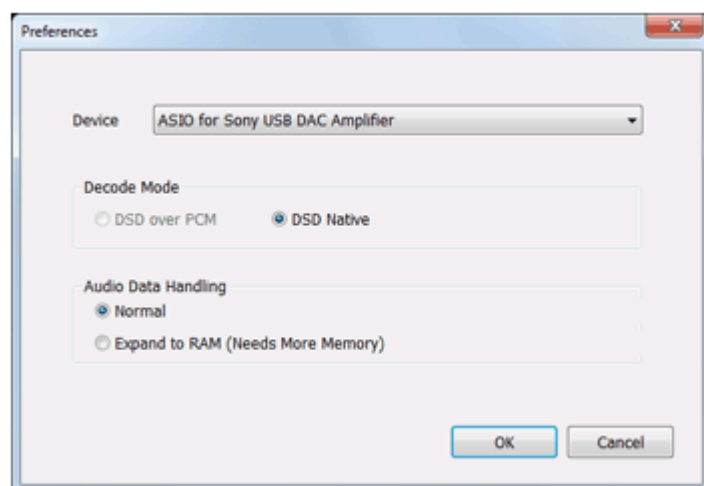
### Playing music with higher quality (for Windows)

You can make settings for playback with higher audio quality.

1. Select [Device] from the [Configure] menu.

While playback is in progress, you cannot select the menu item. Stop the playback and then select the item.

The [Preferences] window is displayed upon your selection of the menu item.



2. Select the desired item in [Decode Mode] or [Audio Data Handling], and then click [OK].

#### Descriptions of displayed items

The following items can be selected.

Depending on the device you are using, some items cannot be set.

##### Decode Mode

You can select a playback method for playback of DSD files.

DSD over PCM: This is a playback method called DoP (DSD Audio over PCM Frames).

A DSD signal is embedded into a normal PCM format.

DSD Native: Using the ASIO 2.1 driver, a DSD signal is transferred directly without converting it to PCM format.

##### Audio Data Handling

You can select the method to be used for file access when you play back music files.

Normal: Plays back music by reading audio data in the same way as with normal file access.

Expand to RAM (Needs More Memory): Plays back music after storing audio data in the active memory of your computer. By canceling file access during playback, the CPU load can be reduced, and you can play

back music files with stable quality. Select this method when you want to play back music with higher audio quality.

**Note**

- When you select [Expand to RAM (Needs More Memory)] in [Audio Data Handling], it may take more time to start playback, depending on the processing speed of your computer.

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

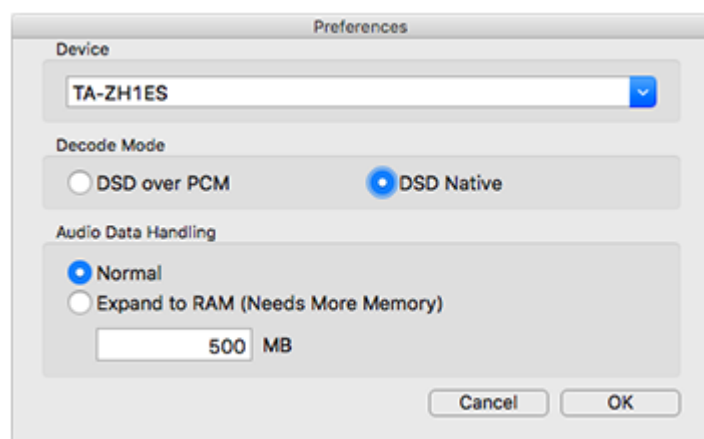
### Playing music with higher quality (for Mac)

You can make settings for playback with higher audio quality.

1. Select [Hi-Res Audio Player] - [Preferences] in the menu bar.

While playback is in progress, you cannot select the menu item. Stop the playback and then select the item.

The [Preferences] window is displayed upon your selection of the menu item.



2. Select the desired item in [Decode Mode] or [Audio Data Handling], and then click [OK].

### Descriptions of displayed items

The following items can be selected.

Depending on the device you are using, some items cannot be set.

#### Decode Mode

You can select a playback method for playback of DSD files.

DSD over PCM: This is a playback method called DoP (DSD Audio over PCM Frames). A DSD signal is embedded into a normal PCM format.

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You can select the method to be used for file access when you play back music files.

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Expand to RAM (Needs More Memory): Plays back music after storing audio data in the active memory of your computer. By canceling file access during playback, the CPU load can be reduced, and you can play back music files with stable quality. Select this method when you want to play back music with higher audio quality.

**Note**

- When you select [Expand to RAM (Needs More Memory)] in [Audio Data Handling], it may take more time to start playback, depending on the processing speed of your Mac.

**Hint**

- When you select [Expand to RAM (Needs More Memory)] in [Audio Data Handling], you can allocate the maximum size of memory to be used. Specify a size for the memory that is more than the maximum size of the audio files you generally play back.

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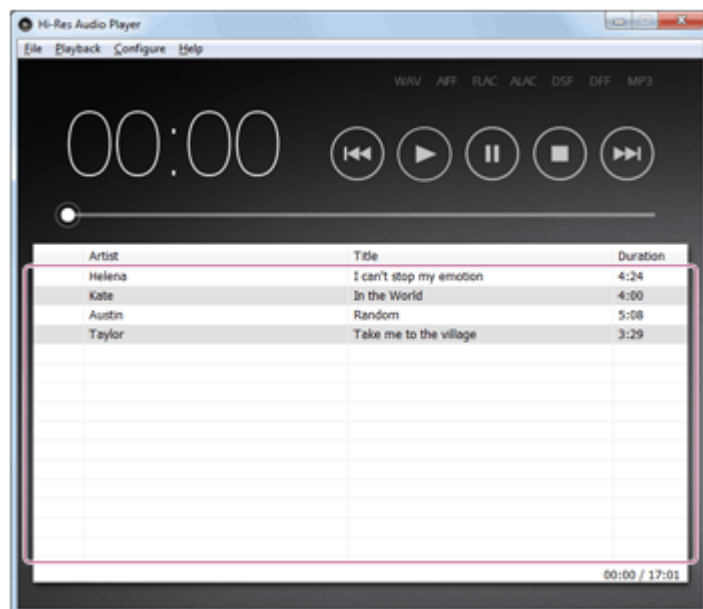
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# Hi-Res Audio Player

## Creating playlists

You can create new playlists to listen to tracks you like in the order you want.

1. Select [New playlist] from the [File] menu.
2. Drag and drop music files to a playlist at the bottom of the window.  
You can also add music files to a playlist by selecting [Add file] from the [File] menu.



## Related Topic

- Saving playlists
- Editing Playlists

[Go to Page Top](#)



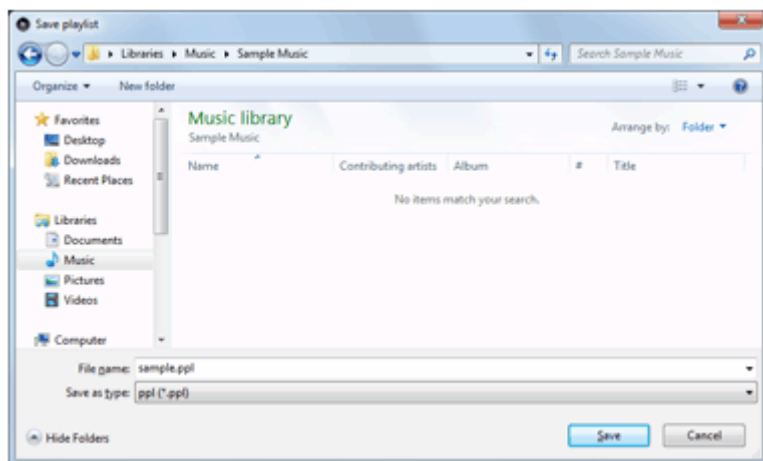
## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Saving playlists

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You can save a playlist you have just created.

1. Create a playlist.
2. Select [Save playlist] from the [File] menu.  
The [Save playlist] window is displayed.



3. Select the location where you want to save the playlist, enter a name for the playlist, and then click [Save].  
The playlist is saved.

#### Note

- A playlist displayed when you play back a music CD cannot be saved.

#### Related Topic

- [Creating playlists](#)

## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Editing Playlists

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You can delete music files from a playlist, and change the order of tracks in a playlist.

#### **Deleting music files**

Select the music file you want to delete in a playlist, and then select [Remove files] from the [File] menu. You can also delete the music file selected by pressing the Delete key on the keyboard.

#### **Changing the order of tracks**

Select the music file you want to move in a playlist, and drag and drop it to the destination.

#### Related Topic

- [Creating playlists](#)

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### System requirements

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Hi-Res Audio Player can be used in the following system environment.

#### OS

- Windows 11
- Windows 10 (32 bit/64 bit)
- Windows 8.1 (32 bit/64 bit)
- Windows 8 (32 bit/64 bit)
- Windows 7 (SP1, 32 bit/64 bit)
- Windows Vista (SP2, 32 bit/64 bit)

- macOS Monterey 12
- macOS Big Sur 11
- macOS Catalina 10.15
- macOS Mojave 10.14
- macOS High Sierra 10.13
- macOS Sierra 10.12
- OS X El Capitan 10.11
- OS X Yosemite 10.10
- OS X Mavericks 10.9

#### Note

- One of the above operating systems should be installed by default. Upgraded operating systems and multi-boot environments are not supported.
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  - Upgraded operating systems
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  - Multi-monitor environments
- The device and the software driver that connects your computer to the device need to support the operating systems listed above.

#### CPU

- For Windows: Intel Core 2 processor of 1.6 GHz or faster
- For Mac: Intel CPU models (64 bit) or M1 chip models

## **Memory**

1 GB or more

## **Screen resolution**

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Compatible file formats

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Hi-Res Audio Player supports the following audio file formats. If you want to play files not supported by Hi-Res Audio Player, such as AAC, please use other player software such as Media Go.

Depending on the formats supported by the device you are using, playback with Hi-Res Audio Player may not be available.

- DSF(.dsf): 2.8 MHz/5.6 MHz/11.2 MHz/22.4 MHz
- DSDIFF(.dff): 2.8 MHz/5.6 MHz/11.2 MHz/22.4 MHz
- PCM(.wav/.aiff/.aif): 44.1 kHz - 768 kHz, 16 bit - 32 bit
- FLAC(.flac): 44.1 kHz - 384 kHz, 16 bit - 32 bit
- ALAC(.m4a): 44.1 kHz - 384 kHz, 16 bit - 32 bit
- MP3(.mp3): 32 kbps - 320 kbps

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#### **libFLAC**

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

The device is not displayed in [Device] in the [Preferences] window.

---

- Check that the driver for the device is installed on your computer.
- Check that the computer and the device are connected correctly.

### Related Topic

- [Connecting the audio device to a computer](#)

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Noise is generated from the device connected.

---

- If, while playing back audio using Hi-Res Audio Player, you start playback of audio with another application that uses the Windows standard driver (Direct Sound), and you close Hi-Res Audio Player, noise may be generated. In such a case, you must also close the application that uses Direct Sound, and then start that application again.

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### DSD audio files cannot be played on a Mac.

---

- Use the latest version of Hi-Res Audio Player (version 1.2.2 or later). Additionally, driver software for Mac needs to be installed with some devices. To download the driver software and Hi-Res Audio Player, refer to the following website.

#### **Hi-Res Audio Player**

For customers in Europe:

<https://www.sony.eu/support>

For customers in the U.S.A. and Canada:

<https://www.sony.com/am/support>

For customers in other countries/regions:

<https://www.sony-asia.com/support>

#### **Driver for the USB DAC AMPLIFIER**

Models for Europe:

<https://www.sony.eu/support>

Models for the USA and Canada:

<https://www.sony.com/am/support>

Models for other countries/regions:

<https://www.sony-asia.com/support>

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

[DSD over PCM] or [DSD Native] is not available for selection in the [Preferences] window.

---

- [Decode Mode] in the [Preferences] window may not be available for selection, depending on the device you are using.  
On a Mac, you can select [Decode Mode] only if you are using a device that provides a proprietary feature.
- If the device you are using does not support DoP (DSD over PCM), [DSD over PCM] is not available for selection.
- If the device you are using does not support DSD Native, [DSD Native] is not available for selection.
- If the device you are using supports DVD playback, you can still play DSD audio files when [Decode Mode] is not available for selection.

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Files cannot be moved by drag and drop operation.

---

- You cannot move files with file extensions that are not supported by Hi-Res Audio Player. Hi-Res Audio Player supports the following audio file formats.
  - DSF(.dsf): 2.8 MHz/5.6 MHz/11.2 MHz/22.4 MHz
  - DSDIFF(.dff): 2.8 MHz/5.6 MHz/11.2 MHz/22.4 MHz
  - PCM(.wav/.aiff/.aif): 44.1 kHz - 768 kHz, 16 bit - 32 bit
  - FLAC(.flac): 44.1 kHz - 384 kHz, 16 bit - 32 bit
  - ALAC(.m4a): 44.1 kHz - 384 kHz, 16 bit - 32 bit
  - MP3(.mp3): 32 kbps - 320 kbps
- You cannot drag and drop folders.

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

### Music files with the “.m4a” extension cannot be played.

---

- m4a files use the ALAC or AAC codec, but Hi-Res Audio Player only supports the ALAC codec. Please check the codec of the file to play.

#### Related Topic

- [Compatible file formats](#)

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## Hi-Res Audio Player

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[Starting Hi-Res Audio Player/Device settings \(for Windows\)](#)

Explains how to start Hi-Res Audio Player and select the device you want to use.

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[Starting Hi-Res Audio Player/Device settings \(for Mac\)](#)

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