Want to Use an iPod with an Old PC (or a new one)?

Don't have Windows 2000, XP or newer? Feel left out from the Apple iPod scene?

Well, you don't have to, there are ways, and some free that can get you connected to your iPod. The problem rests in the fact that any OS older than Windows 2000 does not allow for the Apple iTunes software to install and run. The following will show you a free way (and simple in comparison to some solutions) to get around this problem.

First, you need two pieces of software, Audiograbber (http://www.audiograbber.comus.net/download.html) and ephPod (http://www.ephPod.com/download.shtml). You may also need a FireWire port or a USB 2.0 port on your computer, make sure you know which iPod you have, and you have the correct port on your computer. Also, it's best to make sure you have all the updates necessary for your specific OS (http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com/)

Audiograbber performs the first step of "ripping" your music from CDs into a format that your iPod can play them. ephPod allows you to copy the music from your computer to your iPod. I'll assume you have all the software and hardware necessary installed and will start from here on how to rip and upload your music to your iPod.

Depending upon the version of your OS you may have to set the "CD-ROM access method" in Audiograbber to "Manual". When you run the application, it will tell you if you will need to do this. The following window shows the "General Settings" window, on the bottom there may be three methods to select from, the third is "Manual". Select this if the application required you to do so and press the "OK" button. You should not need to change this setting again. You can change other settings if you like, but you can stick with the default.

🗳 General Settings	? 🗙		
Directory to store files in:	1		
C:\audiograbber	Browse		
Naming Silence Rip Offset Time est. Misc. More misc.			
Create filenames from: Sub Directories			
Artist name 📃 Artist as directory			
Album Name Album as directory			
✓ Track number ✓ Track name	nd wma		
Advanced			
CD-ROM access method:			
ASPI MSCDEX Analog			
Call drive via: C ASPI manager 🕢 Win NT/2000 calls			
CD-ROM unit: TSSTcorpCDW/DVD TS-L462AHP17 💌			
CD-ROM type: IDE - ATAPI			
Rip Method: Buffered Burst Copy			
DAE Speed: Default 💌			
Show: C Detected speeds 📀 All speeds	<u>C</u> ancel		
□ Rip as much as possible to RAM Max: 711 → MB	<u>, о</u> к		

- 1) Run the Audiograbber application.
- 2) Inset the music CD you want to put on your iPod.
- 3) You'll see the following window come up, click on the "CD" drop down and select "Get track names from CD-TEXT". If it states that CD-TEXT does not exist, from the CD drop down, select "Get from freedb". If this still does not get the song names and artist, you'll have to manually type in the names of the music, the artist, etc.

audiograbber				_ 🗆 🛛
File CD Settings Help				
Refresh Grab! Settings 🗆 Norm. R	MP3 Freed	b Player	Year: Exit Genre:	Fade tracks
Compilation disc Artist			Album	
Track name	Time	Filesize	Information	^
🗹 1. Episode	03:53	39.29 Mb		
🗹 2. Cantar	01:26	14.55 Mb		
🗹 3. Track 3	02:33	25.79 Mb		
🗹 4. Track 4	01:24	14.23 Mb		
🗹 5. Track: 5	02:00	20.35 Mb		≡
🗹 6. Track 6	04:05	41.36 Mb		
🗹 7. Track 7	03:21	33.87 Mb		
🗹 8. Track 8	02:35	26.10 Mb		
🗹 9. Track 9	03:14	32.72 Mb		
🗹 10. Track 10	02:58	29.98 Mb		
🗹 11. Track 11	02:16	22.93 Mb		
🗹 12. Track 12	01:37	16.32 Mb		
13. Track 13	02:13	22.52 Mb		
🗹 14. Track 14	02:49	28.43 Mb		_
15. Track 15	03:02	30.77 Mb		*
113 🚍			<u> </u>	
VIII 🗰 22 Tracks, Playtime: 58:36 T	otal time left: 01:	57:56	► II II ¥ «	>> k(>> ?> 🔺 📢 🏸

- 4) Make sure the "MP3" box is checked towards the top of the window.
- 5) You may want to specify where the resulting files go, if so, press the Button above the MP3 selection. The resulting window appears, and if you press the folder icon you can select the location of where you wish to put the resulting ripped files.

AP3 Settings	? 🔀
Grab to:	
⊂ <u>W</u> av file	
MP3 file via intermediate wav file. Keep the wav file	
C MP3 file via intermediate wav file. Delete the wav file	
Intersect Rip and Encode to MP3 file	
🖵 Use ID3v1 Tag 🛛 Edit 🛛 🗖 Append ID3 info to wav file	(for future use)
☐ <u>Rip</u> all tracks before encoding	
🔽 Internal Encoder 📃 🗖 External Encoder	
Fraunhofer IIS MPEG Layer-3 Codec (advanced)	
	Contract MD2
Mode 56 KBit/s, 22,050 Hz, Stereo	
Encode with <u>H</u> ighest Quality	Browse
	X <u>C</u> ancel
Encoder Priority:	<u>√</u> <u>о</u> к

6) Click the "Grab" button and you'll see something like the following window (this may take a long time):

🖄 Copying 🛛	1 / 22) Episode		_ 🗆 🛛
Disc write: Total size: Reading secto Total sectors:	3.21 Mbytes 39.29 Mbytes : 1430 17518 Used CPU time (Bul Description of the construction of the constructi	ffered Burst) Left Burst blems: 0	When finished:
Track length: Time elapsed: Time left:	03:53 Current read and encode speed: 0:06 0:36	5.86x 8%	Create M3U list Play the songs
Normalization o	an not be used without intermediate way file	22%	
Time elapsed: Time left:	0:00 0:00	23%	
MP3 Compres: Time elapsed: Time left:	sion: 56 kBit/s, 22,050 Hz, Stereo, HQ = OFF 0:06 0:36	8%	Pause Skip this track Abort all

- 7) Ok, if you have more albums, go ahead and load them now, and follow the above steps 2- 5.
- 8) Now you're done with Audiograbber with all your albums. You'll need to transfer these songs you just ripped to your iPod, so plug in your iPod now. (I am assuming

that your iPod is PC formatted, if not you'll need to get the iPod updater from the Apple web site (http://www.apple.com/ipod/download/).

- 9) Run the ephPod software once the iPod has been recognized, and drivers installed to access the iPod.
- 10) If you're running the ephPod for the first time you'll need to go through a quick setup process, which requires you to select the correct drive letter for your iPod (usually drive letter E:). ephPod will go on to the next step when this is complete.
- 11) Press the "Add Songs" button toward the upper left corner of the ephPod window and drill down to where you saved the files. You can select all the files in the folder by clicking on the first file, then pressing shift and click on the last file in the folder. Press "Open"

Select Song(s)			? ×
Look in: 🔂 Audio		- 🗈 💆	📸 🔳
 ● 01 - Episode ● 02 - Cantar ● 03 - Track 3 ● 04 - Track 4 ● 05 - Track 5 ● 06 - Track 6 	 4 07 - Track 7 4 08 - Track 8 4 09 - Track 9 4 09 - Track 10 4 09 - Track 10 4 09 - Track 11 4 09 - Track 11 4 09 - Track 12 	13 · Track 13 14 · Track 14 14 · Track 14 15 · Track 15 16 · Track 16 17 · Track 17 18 · Track 18	 419 - Track 441 20 - Track 441 21 - Track 441 21 - Track 441 22 - Track
•			F
File <u>n</u> ame: "22 -	Track 22.mp3'' ''02 - C	antar.mp3'' ''03 - Tr	<u>O</u> pen
Files of type: iPod	Supported Files (*.mp3,	, *.wav, *.aa) 💌	Cancel

12) When you go to the "Recent" list, you'll see all the songs you just imported. Optionally, if you like, you can create new Playlists on your iPod, by clicking on Playlists, then right clicking within the lists of Playlists. Copy the files you want in the play lists from the lower pane of the ephPod window. Playlists are easy ways to look up tracks that may not have a similar relation that would have to be set by you.

Add Playlist from File	Ctrl+P	
New Playlist	Ctrl+N	
Delete Selected	Del	
Rename Selected Pla	ylist	
Delete All Playlists	Ctrl+D	
Sort By Name		
Play Playlist		

- 13) Now you'll want to update your iPod with the new tracks you loaded, to do this, simply quit ephPod and answer the question that "Yes" you want to update your iPod with the changes. This may take a long time. Don't stop here, though, there's still more to do before you touch your iPod, so read on, as you could damage your iPod or the computer if you don't finish these steps, first.
- 14) If you've never had to disconnect a device from a Windows machine, you're going to hate me now. The process to unplug is not easy, so pay attention. First, in the taskbar, you'll see a little icon that looks like the following, and if you roll the pointer over it, it will say "Safely Remove Hardware":



- 15) Right click on the icon and select the option that appears "Safely Remove Hardware"
- 16) You will be presented a list of items that can be disconnected. Select the iPod and press the "Stop" button.
- 17) In the next window, press the "OK" button, and then press "Close" in the first window when it states the device has been removed.
- 18) Unplug the iPod from the computer and you're done!