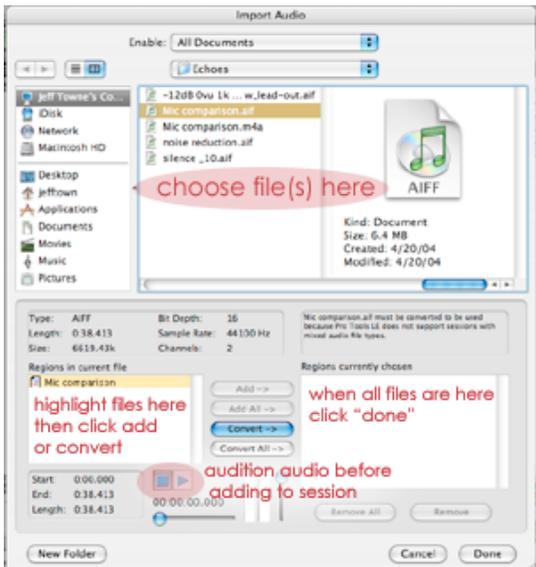


Protocols 2: Importing audio

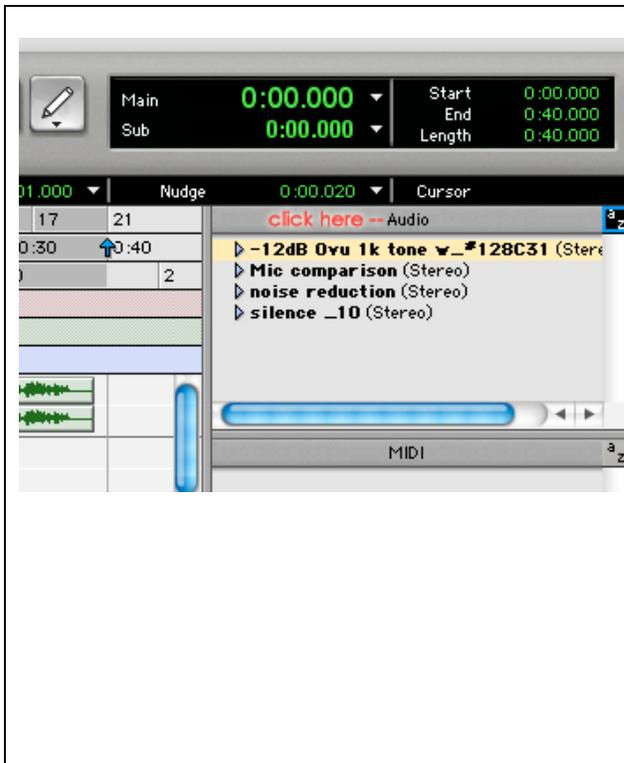
To extract sound from an audio CD, put the disc in your computer's CD-ROM drive. Then go to the "Movie" menu, and choose "Import Audio from Other Movie." Navigate to the CD-ROM drive, choose the track you would like to use, and choose "convert." It will ask where you want to save the converted file, navigate to the audio files folder within your current project. The audio file will be extracted as a quicktime movie file, then converted to a split stereo file.

If you already have music or ambience on your hard drive you wish to use as a bed, skip ahead to the next step. If you have another program you prefer, you can extract audio from a CD in any format that ProTools can read: SD2, .WAV or AIFF. ProTools uses "split stereo" files, even in stereo tracks, but if you cannot extract to that format, the program will split them for you when you import.



The screenshot shows the 'Import Audio' dialog box in ProTools. The 'Enable' dropdown is set to 'All Documents' and the 'Echoes' dropdown is set to 'Echoes'. The file list on the left shows several files, with 'Mic comparison.aif' highlighted. A red oval points to this file with the text 'choose file(s) here'. The file details on the right show 'Kind: Document', 'Size: 6.4 MB', 'Created: 4/20/04', and 'Modified: 4/20/04'. Below the file list, there are buttons for 'Add ->', 'Add All ->', 'Convert ->', and 'Convert All ->'. A red oval points to the 'Convert ->' button with the text 'highlight files here then click add or convert'. Another red oval points to the 'Convert ->' button with the text 'when all files are here click "done"'. At the bottom, there is a play button icon and a red oval pointing to it with the text 'audition audio before adding to session'. The 'Regions in current file' section shows 'Mic comparison' with a start time of 0:06.000, an end time of 0:38.413, and a length of 0:38.413. The 'Regions currently chosen' section is empty. The 'Start' field shows 0:06.000, the 'End' field shows 0:38.413, and the 'Length' field shows 0:38.413. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'New Folder', 'Cancel', and 'Done'.

To import audio extracted with a different program, or other audio that already exists on your hard drive, go to the "file" menu choose "import audio to track" and choose the file, (both the .L and .R versions if it is a split-stereo file.) Each audio file will be placed in a new track, stereo or mono depending on the file. (ProToolsFree can not have stereo tracks, and will import stereo files to two mono tracks.) Corresponding channels will be created in the mix window.



If you don't wish to make a new track for each soundfile, you can also import audio into the audio "bin" also known as the "regions list." This is a list of all files and regions available to the project. It is at the right side of the edit window. If you don't see it, click on the small >> mark at the bottom right corner of the edit window. Conversely, if you don't need to see the regions list and need more screen space for the edit window, you can hide the bin by clicking on << in the bottom right of the edit window.

Click on the bar marked "audio" at the top of the regions list, and you'll get a drop-down menu with several options. Choose "import audio," navigate to the file(s) you wish to import.

From the import dialog, you can choose to leave the files where they were and simply add them to your session, or make new copies to add to your audio files folder. If the file you wish to import is not a split stereo file, or is in a file format different from your session, ProTools will convert the file upon importing.

These files in your audio bin can then be dragged into a track in the edit window. Mono files must be placed in mono tracks, stereo files in stereo tracks.