

Re: iTunes Running on MCE 2004?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.mediacenter/2004-07/0760.html>

From: JoeyMCSE (*JoeyMCSE_at_discussions.microsoft.com*)

Date: 07/24/04

Date: Sat, 24 Jul 2004 03:32:01 -0700

HOPE THIS HELPS YOU.

Check out:

http://66.102.7.104/searchq=cache:C9_b9MwPs1sJ:www.osxhax.com/archives/000046.html+.M4P+WMP+PLUGIN+

Apparently renaming a m4p/m4a to a .mp4 will allow playback in a windows based machine. You can also get the Digital Media Pack from MS that media converter/encoder (Will come in Symphony when released, or you can buy MS PLUS! Digital Media Edition)

M4P is just an encryption wrapper around an mp4 file.

I don't buy, download, or bother with any media files that have DRM enabled on them.

If you take your renamed mp4 files & convert them to wma vbr, wma lossless, mp3, etc, or leave them as mp4, you can then just add a watch folder in WMP where the files are & then if your IDTAGs are correct then CDDDB should find the info & art, allowing for MCE GUI playback in the MUSIC category.

Ciao,

Joey

Having done this, I've figured out that m4a and m4p files are really mp4 files. In fact, if you rename an m4a as an mp4, Windows QuickTime will play it perfectly, and as a bonus will extract a WAV file if you like.

Using mp4info, you can peer inside an MPEG4 file. On an m4a file, you see the expected: a single AAC encoded audio track. On an m4p, however, you see an "unknown" encoding audio track.

These are command line tools, so you will need to play with the terminal to use 'em, but they seem darned useful.

In the meantime, if your goal is just to be able to share your m4a files (encoded from CDs or what not) with Windows machines, just rename them mp4 and play them from Windows Quicktime 6.1 (or, of course, extract the AIFF from them on the mac).

Posted by nsayer at May 1, 2003 09:40 AM | TrackBack

Comments

I've done some more research with m4p files. There appear to be two major differences between m4a files and

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m4p files worth talking about.

1. The stream data appears to be encrypted or modified. No big surprise there.
2. The "std" section of an m4a file seems to typically contain a "mp4a" section that appears to have information concerning the average bitrate and stuff like that. In the m4p file, there is instead a "drms" section, which contains a bunch of personal information about the purchaser, and presumably also has some information needed to decode the track data.

So it looks like the two big pieces of the puzzle are figuring out how to convert the data in the drms section into a replacement mp4a section and the data necessary to decode the AAC stream.

Posted by: Nick Sayer at May 2, 2003 07:09 PM

Another thing you can do is move the file to a windows box, and use a plugin from the same people at MPEG4IP in the WinAmp2 app, and play the songs on your PC.

Posted by: the_bad_seed at May 9, 2003 01:45 PM

How do I convert an m4a file into an mp3 so I can play it on MusicMatch jukebox?

Posted by: Ben Lindell at June 23, 2003 07:39 PM

Ditto Ben's question.

I'd love to play my iTunes purchases on my Palm Tungsten T. Seems that all the players only handle mp3 files.

If I have to, I'll go through some burn/re-dig process with toast or an old version of iTunes, but it seems such a waste of time...

Thanks for any ideas.

Posted by: cb at June 25, 2003 11:44 PM

Is it possible to convert the .mp4's to either .wav or .mp3 (to burn to cd) with something other than q.time pro (which I don't have)?

Thanx

Posted by: Raziell at June 26, 2003 06:35 AM

QT Pro costs 30 bucks. Go buy it and the problem should be solved.

Posted by: Big Guy at June 26, 2003 02:49 PM

I've purchased some music from the itunes music store and i'm trying to play it on my pc. i've tried renaming the files to mp4 and quicktime is associated with it, but when it opens i get the message "Couldn't open the file because an invalid sample description was found in the movie". I've got the newest version of quicktime so i'm not sure what the problem is.

Posted by: metric152 at August 1, 2003 12:15 AM

i found a program that converts all m4a files into mp3 for iTunes (download is free):

http://www.slimp3.com/su_downloads.html

IT ROCKS!!!

Posted by: toasty at August 6, 2003 08:52 PM

The link in the first line of the top comment () no longer works. Before I spend a lot of time futzing around can someone provide a new, pertinent link?

Re: iTunes Running on MCE 2004?

Matt

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Remove the "downwithspammers-" text to email me.

Posted by: Matt England at August 7, 2003 06:37 AM

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Matt

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Remove the "downwithspammers-" text to email me.

Posted by: Matt England at August 7, 2003 06:38 AM

"I've purchased some music from the itunes music store and i'm trying to play it on my pc."

Won't work, you can bring over your M4A files as MP4, but M4Ps are a different matter.

Posted by: Jacob Saxon at August 18, 2003 09:13 PM

Doe's M4A's play on Window's Media Player by any chance...and if not is there a plug in I can get

Posted by: Kental McNasty at August 20, 2003 04:14 PM

"Doe's M4A's play on Window's Media Player by any chance...and if not is there a plug in I can ge

If you install the 3ivx codec for Windows, Windows Media Player can play .m4a files perfectly. Ho

Posted by: Xenex at September 1, 2003 10:18 PM

This seems rather simple, but you can import the M4A into iMovie and export it as an AIF. Use iTU

Posted by: Kent at September 15, 2003 05:52 PM

Where can I get q.time pro? I don't mind paying for it, but I can't seem to find it anywhere when

I assume based on what I read, this will convert my .M4P files I purchased from the Apple Store i
thanks!

Posted by: Michele at October 26, 2003 06:40 AM

The links included in this discussion have been very helpful! I have seen Andromeda before, but w

as for iTunes, and MPEG4 or MP3, if you go >>EDIT >> PREFERENCES >> IMPORTING, then select import

Although, the format seems rather robust so give it a try. Also, with SLIPM3, and a decent router,
Check it out!

Posted by: Daniel at November 8, 2003 06:01 PM

How does the Slimp3 server help you convert files? I have yet to see an option like that on this

Posted by: Brent at November 11, 2003 04:08 PM

ditto.. i cant find a option to convert m4a into mp3

Posted by: Dude at November 30, 2003 03:54 PM

instead i solved this problem by burning an audio-cd with itunes on a rewriteable cd an ripped thi

Posted by: Dude at November 30, 2003 04:01 PM

sorry... i'm too stupid! i found 5min later a perfect converter.. take a look:

<http://www.poikosoft.com/>

Posted by: Dude at November 30, 2003 04:32 PM

WinAMP AAC/MP4 input plugin

<http://www.pmbrowser.info/hublog/archives/000316.html>

Posted by: LordB at December 1, 2003 10:20 PM

I highly recommend QCD player. It can play mp4 files and convert them to mp3/wav/whatever.

www.quinnware.com

IMO, it is better than Winamp.

Posted by: twig at December 2, 2003 05:47 PM

You can always record the m4p through Total Recorder save as a .wav and convert it to mp3. It sav

Posted by: abi at December 3, 2003 10:40 PM

Here's what worked fine for me when confronted with an m4a-file for the first time.Go to www.dbpo

Good luck

Posted by: rob at December 22, 2003 12:27 AM

just Encode files with Nero Burning Rom to what U want !!

good luc

Posted by: galkin at December 26, 2003 06:21 PM

just Encode files with Nero Burning Rom 6.0 to what U want !!

good luc

Posted by: galkin at December 26, 2003 06:22 PM

how do i convert a m4a file to mp3, so i can listen and record?

Posted by: brian at January 7, 2004 08:24 PM

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I have a two questions. First, I have quicktime pro, and it does not seem to be able to export th

Posted by: Toren at January 10, 2004 01:28 PM

Could someone make a virtual cd burner, burn the tracks to the hard drive then rip them with itun

Posted by: rmiller021 at January 13, 2004 01:12 PM

So i'm working on a project. Wondering if anyone has done this or if you have any insight...

I want to take all my CDs and import them into my computer so i can use my computer as a "juke bo

What format is the best to import to? MP3, M4a, M4P? any others?

What player is the best to use?

Where is a good place to buy or download music online? and again, in what format? (it sounds like

Posted by: Dave at January 14, 2004 07:10 AM

Dave:

1. AAC

2. iTunes

3. iTunes Music Store. The most flexible store out there with the FairPlay DRM. You can basically

Posted by: ZackMac at January 16, 2004 10:59 AM

God Bless You Daniel!!!!!!

Hours of searching, nearly bought a half dozen programs... I couldn't figure out why the only sof

Daniel wrote:

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