

What You'll Learn in Section One

Transcript

Welcome to the course, *Beginning Audacity: Step by Step*. My name is Mike Adams. I'm the creator of this course and your teacher, Let's talk for just a minute about what you're going to learn in section one. I'm going to show you how to download Audacity and once we get it downloaded and you get it installed on your system, we're going to then talk about the user interface.

The first time we start Audacity it brings up a user interface, and sometimes that can be a little intimidating because we look at our screen and we don't know what to do with it. So what you and I are going to do is break down that user interface block by block, piece by piece, section by section, and we're going to get an overview of what each section is and what it does so that you can be more comfortable with that user interface when you start Audacity for the first time.

Then after our overview of the Audacity user interface, we're going to make our first recording together. I'm going to show you how to record in Audacity, and then you're going to want to save that recording because we're going to come back later in the course and use it to do some editing and to export it as an MP3 file.

Then after we've recorded your first project, we're going to talk about waveforms because when you recorded that project, it laid down a waveform in Audacity. It put a waveform in the track. So I'm going to explain to you what a waveform is, and we're going to look at some of the basic elements of waveforms.

At that point, I'm going to show you how to create, save, and open a project in Audacity. An Audacity project is different than an exported file. Only Audacity can open Audacity project files and older versions of Audacity used a completely different type of filing system. So we'll talk about that when we get to that lecture.

This first section of the course is going to give you the confidence to be able to navigate through Audacity, to open it, to understand the user interface, to know how to record a basic track, and to save it so you don't lose your hard work. So let's get started.