

Audacity Step-by-Step: Beginner to Advanced

Lecture 7: What You'll Learn in Section Two

Transcript

Welcome to section two of our course. I've entitled this section Audacity Fundamentals. Like anything else in life, it's good to understand the fundamentals of how something works before we proceed too far with it. And so this section is all about the fundamentals. To start with, I'm going to show you how to select and name a track.

Then we'll move from there into the different waveform views. You remember that in section one, we did a recording together and we talked a little bit about waveforms. We're going to take that discussion a step further, and I'm going to show you the different waveform views within Audacity so you know what they are, and so that you know that they're there.

And then from there, I'm going to show you how to solo, mute, collapse, and expand a track in Audacity. These are the basic fundamentals of how to work with a track in Audacity. And once you get started in Audacity, you're going to be doing this stuff all the time. So you need to know how to do it upfront.

And then from there, we're going to turn our attention to the balance and slider bars in the track control header, and we're going to talk about what those are, why it's important to have those set correctly, and what happens if they're set incorrectly when we export our project as an MP3 file or a Wav file. I'm also going to show you how to auto fit all of your tracks onto your screen.

Sometimes when we record a project or when we import a project, it can be very long. It can be an hour, two hours long, and it can have multiple tracks. Well, in that situation, what we get is a project where the tracks go off the end of the screen and we can't see the whole thing. They also vertically go off the bottom of the screen and we can't see the entire project.

I'm going to show you how to auto fit your project to the screen in this section. And then from there, we're going to talk more about manipulating tracks within Audacity as I show you how to split, move, join, and delete sections of audio within a track or tracks. And then finally, we're going to take everything that we've learned in this section, all of these fundamentals, and we're going to put them to work.

We're going to take that first recording that you did in section one, and we're going to edit it. We're going to manipulate it. We're going to move things around. We're going to put into practice what we learned so that I can show you how these things practically work out when you're editing a track.

And then we're going to export that audio that we recorded in section one as an MP3 file as though we were going to upload it to an audio host for our podcast. So let's get started.