

Welcome in Music Organizer's help.

The aim of this document is to describe you the software Music Organizer. Its features will be also explained.

With help from various examples and screenshots, this document will help you using Music Organizer as good as possible or may be answer to your question about this software



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1 Introduction

First, Music Organizer is a musical files' managing software. It can do various managing and handling operations of these files due to tags edition capability. Tags are kind of musical files

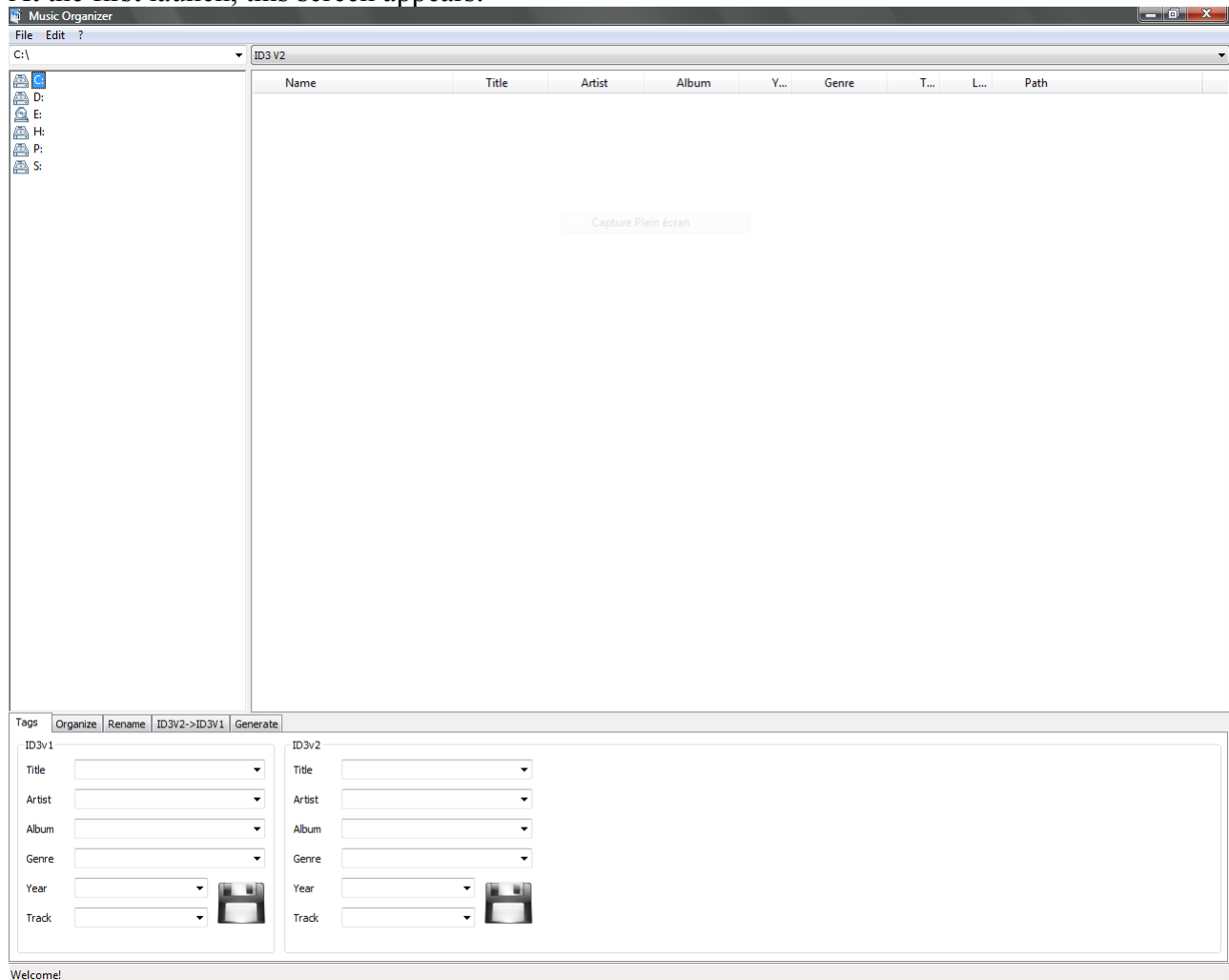
characteristic, and store lot information about them e.g.: the year, the genre, the artist, the track number, the album and so on...

2 Features

Music Organizer has various features. They will be explained more precisely next. In order to help users, things will be detailed in a chronological order: the first found will be the first talked about.

Interface presentation

At the first launch, this screen appears:



This is called the “start-up screen”, which will be always like this (the folder in the explorer may change).

At the left, the “explorer” is visible. It allows you to move in the files tree like it would be done if only directories were available. But in fact it allows having a more global view of them.

On the screenshot, the right part is empty. Its function will be shown later, it lists files of the selected directory. Above it there's a drop down list to choose which tags version is visible. In fact mp3 files' can store up to two ID3 tags version, just named version 1 (a.k.a ID3v1) and version 2 (a.k.a ID3v2), and as some musical player software only take care of one of them not merging them avoid any unpleasant surprise (e.g. a tag has been changed but the player display something wrong as before the modification).

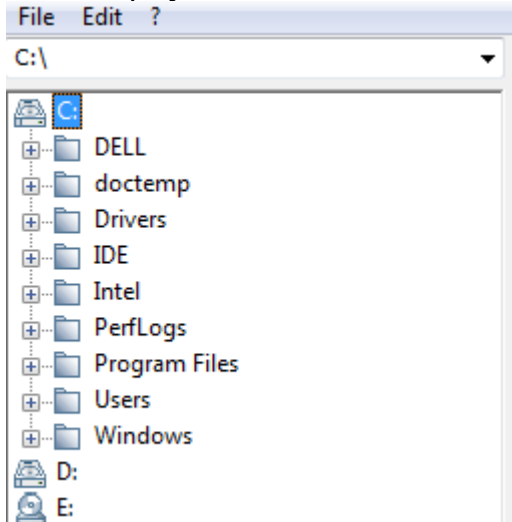
The lower part groups together the different operations which can be done on files: edition, organization, renaming, copying and tags generation.

Files searching

Before made any data processing on one or more files, the software must found them.

2.1.1 Scanning with the explorer

The files' scanning is core functionality but it's as simple as important. The first thing to do is double-clicking on the partition wanted in the tree (only for windows users). Now something like that is displayed:



In order to continue going deeper in the tree, the previous operations would likely be done again, but it's not exactly the same.

If the current sub-directory isn't this which is wanted to be selected, just click on the “+” on the left of folder name (or any symbols on the other platforms). But if the icon or the name of the folder is clicked, the content of the directory will be scanned and its own sub-directories may be scanned too (see global option for more information), in order to find all the mp3.

This detail is important, time will be saved and only wanted files will be shown if the folder is well chosen.

When the wanted directory is selected, the file list is being filled:

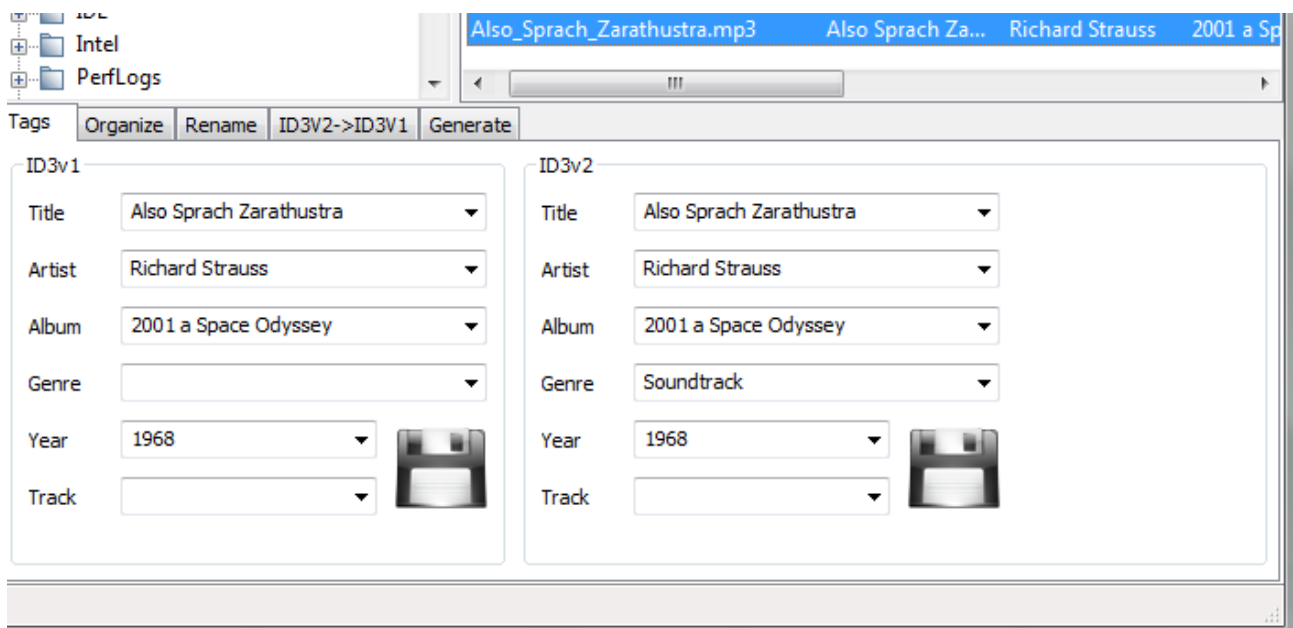
On top of that explorer there is a text area. The current directory selected in the tree is put into it, but it can be edited in order to change manually the folder. More over an auto completion system have been enabled to reduce typing errors and save time again (*it's still not working under Mac OS X*)

File edition

One of the biggest interesting point of Music Organizer is tag edition: the processing on musical files has been designed as simply as possible. However tag edition of one file will be described before tag edition for multiple files.

2.1.2 For only one file

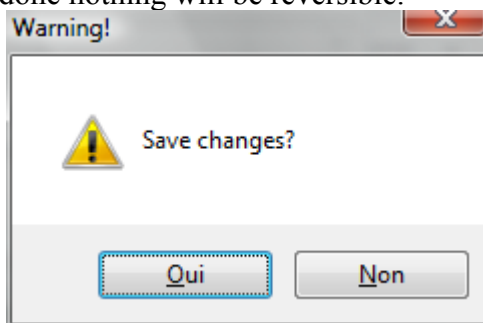
In order to edit one file, only one must be selected (logical). If the file has already some tags, they would be displayed on the drop-down list associated.



To edit selected file tags, simply modify the content of the drop-down lists.

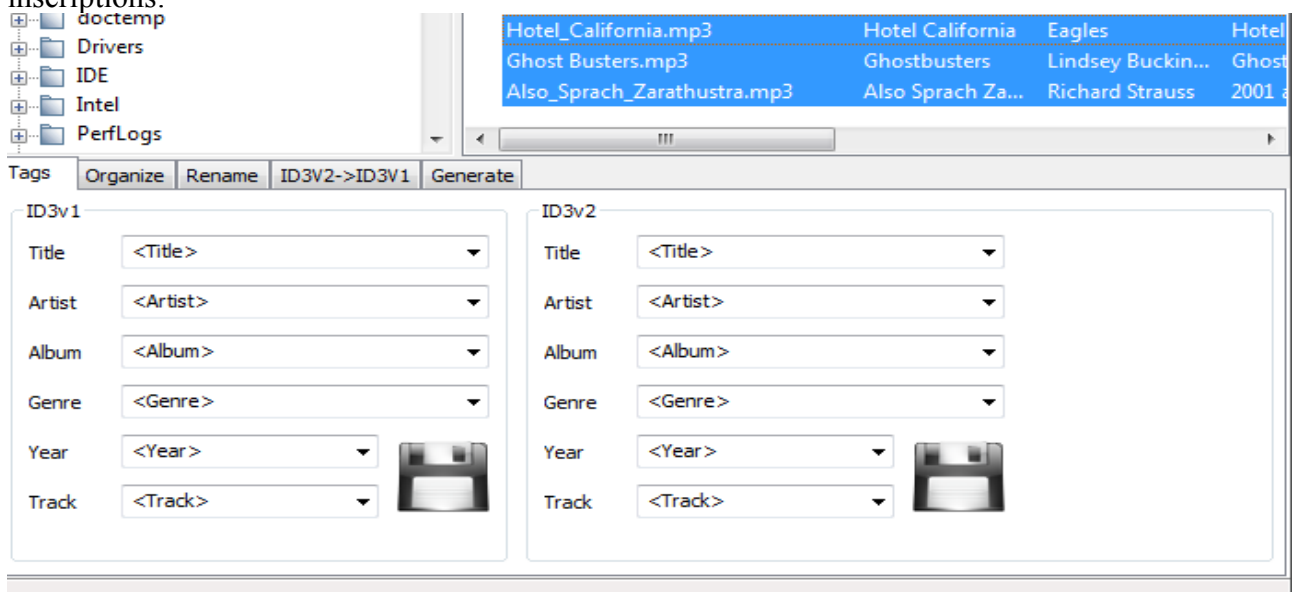
Warning!

When modifications are done click on the floppy to commit your change. Then this message box appears. It's to confirm the edition, it's really important because when the modifications will be done nothing will be reversible.



2.1.3 For multiple files

To edit multiple files at the same time, the first thing to do is, logically, to select more than one file. From this the text which is displayed in the drop-down list not the tags any more, but those inscriptions:



But the list of selected files tags can be shown for one tag at one time. On the picture, Artist tag list has been shown for the two selected files, the two artists can be chosen from the list:

The screenshot shows a software window with tabs: 'Tags', 'Organize', 'Rename', 'ID3V2->ID3V1', and 'Generate'. The 'Tags' tab is active, displaying two panels for editing file tags. The left panel is for ID3v1 and the right for ID3v2. Both panels have fields for Title, Artist, Album, Genre, Year, and Track, each with a dropdown menu. In the ID3v2 panel, the 'Album' dropdown is open, showing a list with 'Ghostbusters' and 'Hotel California'. There are also floppy disk icons next to the Year and Track fields in both panels.

To write a file tag for the other files simply clicks on his name in the pop-up list. The tag will be the tag of all selected files after saving. If wanted tag is not in the list it can be edited manually. Don't forget to click on the floppy disk. In those example, the genre « Soundtrack » have been written for the two files:

File Name	Album	Year	Genre	Track	Duration	Path
Lindsey Buckin...	Ghostbusters	1984	Soundtrack	1	4:04	C:\Users\cgallet\Music
Richard Strauss	2001 a Space O...	1968	Soundtrack		3:44	C:\Users\cgallet\Music

Below the table is a 'generate' button.

File organization

The second import function is file organization in different directories. It can also create folders and fill them from one or more tags. For example it allow you to put files with the same artist or album together.

This function is only useful for multiple files: you can do it with one file too (why not). The steps to achieve this are:

Files are selected:

The screenshot shows the 'Organize' tab selected. It contains a 'File organization's description' dropdown menu, a 'Keyboarding preview' area with a large empty box, and three buttons: 'Copy to...', 'Move to...', and 'Quick move'. On the right, there is a 'Caption' section with placeholders: '%1 : Artist', '%2 : Album', '%3 : Year', and '%4 : Genre'. At the bottom right, it says 'Current quick directory :'. The 'Tags' tab is also visible at the top.

Then the tab “Organize” is selected. As we can see 2 options are usable: “Copy to...” and “Move to...”. They will be described in this order.

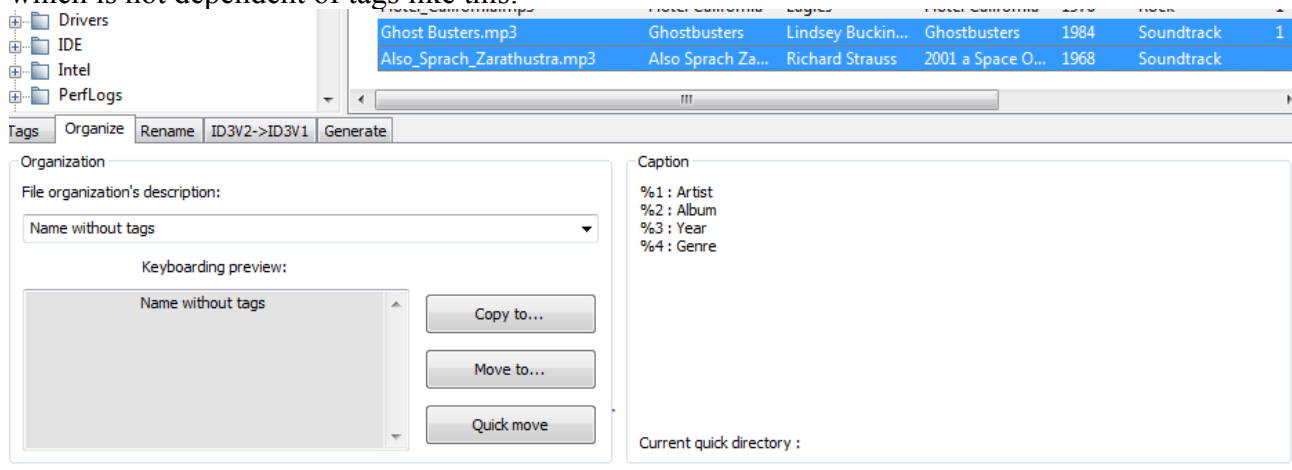
In fact the steps would be the same only result will be different.

2.1.4 Copy to....

What this option can do is, as the name “says” it, to copy musical files in directories whose names are build from tags of the files, they would have been chosen previously.

Now that some files have been selected, the name of the destination folder must be written. This name is chosen from tags available i.e. Artist, Album, Year and Genre.

Using those tags is not compulsory at all. It's also possible to type only a name of directory which is not dependent of tags like this:

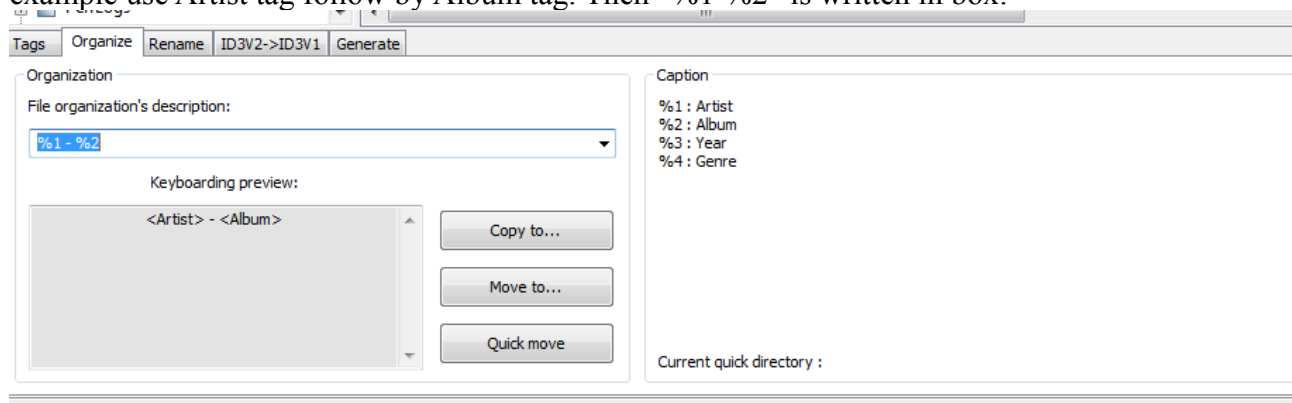


At the left of the buttons “Copy to...” and “Move to...” there is a preview of the generated name.

But Music Organizer begins to be really useful for building directories names which are tags-dependent. For example if the name chosen must contain the Artist tag, it will be achieved with the code `%1`, then the result will be that all files with the same artist will be put in the same folder. With more tags the results is like with only one: let's say that the wanted name would have the Album and Genre tags (with their code again, `%2` and `%4` respectively), all the files from the same album AND with the same genre will be put at the same place.

So Music Organizer allow to organize simply, quickly and efficiently a big collection of different musical files.

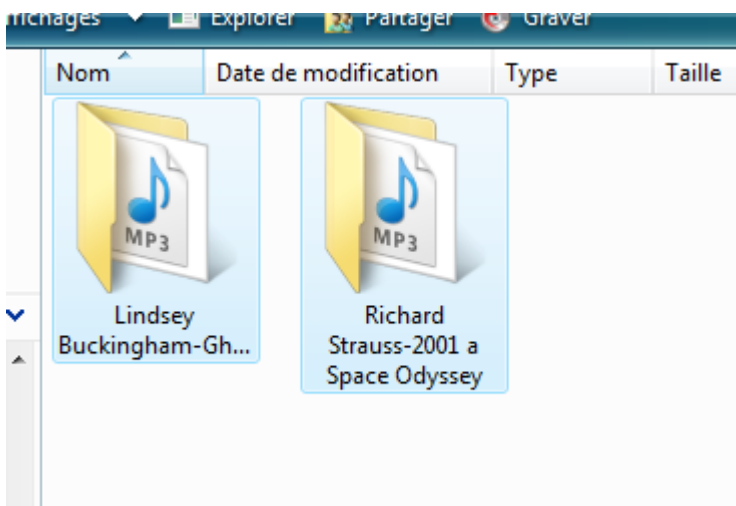
The next steps will be the choosing of the most appropriate combination of tags. The example use Artist tag follow by Album tag. Then “`%1-%2`” is written in box:



With the two files previously selected, 2 folders will be made, the first named: “Richard Strauss-2001 a Space Odyssey”, the other “Lindsey Buckingham-Ghostbusters”.

Finally just click on “Copy to...”, the destination directory is asked simply choose it. Just wait the end of copy and it's done.

Then if the destination folder is opened this result is visible:



The folders making has been done with success.

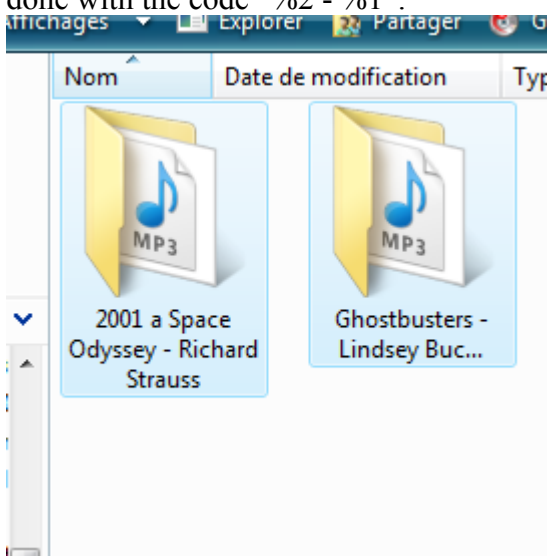
Tips

- The special character « / » can be use to create your own folder-tree with multiple levels of sub-directories.
Then, by choosing “%1/%2” ,the files will be in the directories generated from Album tag which will be found in the folders made from Artist name.
- The second tip is that drag and drop is available: if files are selected in the list they can be dragged to the tree and dropped on a folder. Then a pop-up message will appear to ask confirmation of copying (*warning this not available on Mac yet*).

2.1.5 Move to....

As said before, the process for “Move to...” is very similar to “Copy to...” one. The folder naming follows the same rules. The only difference is: while previously files were copied now there are moved. This implies one thing, original files and organization will be lost (if some directories begin to be empty they may be automatically erased, see Options).

When the folder name have been written, simply click on “Move to...”. The destination folders will be asked then. A verification of the good processing can be made. The example was done with the code “%2 - %1”:



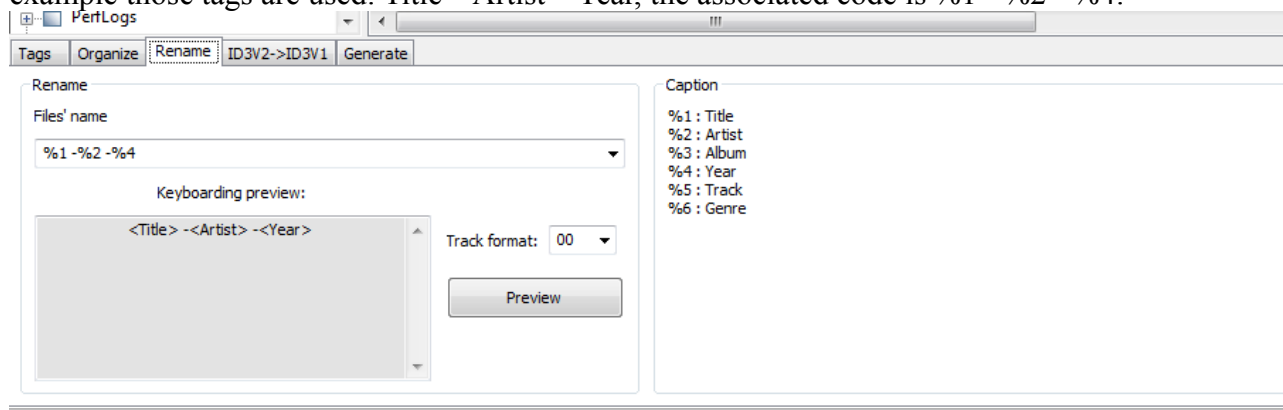
The copy have worked well, a quick look in the original folder will show that files have been really moved.

Renaming

The renaming function is very useful when files need to be rewritten from their tags. Now the instructions.

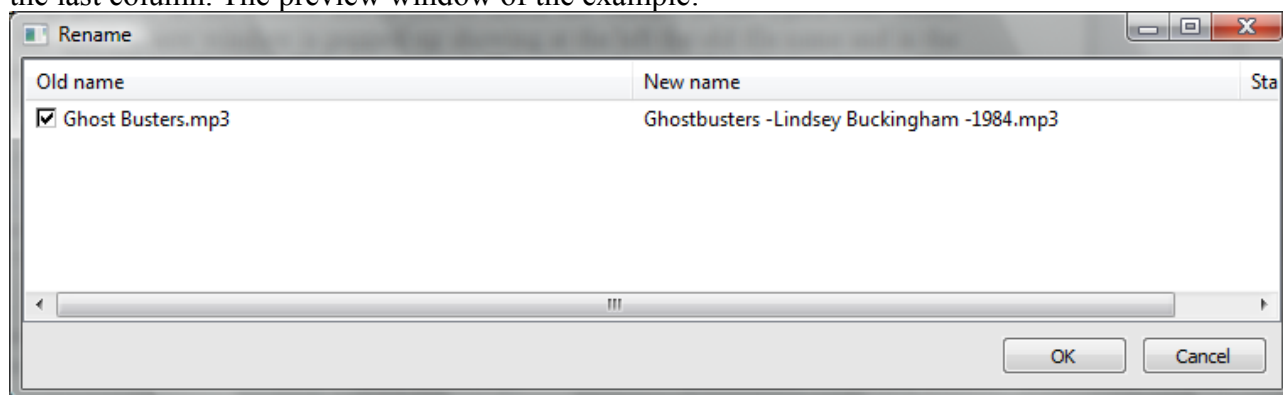
It's mostly based on existing tags in the file to generate smart file names. The process will be explained from an example.

First of all, a file must be selected (or more). Next, the wanted tag mix is chosen. In the example those tags are used: Title – Artist – Year, the associated code is %1 - %2 - %4:



The quick preview at the bottom allows you to check the validity of the typed text. When clicking on “Preview”, a new window is popped-up showing at the left the old file name and in the middle the new name if the change will be committed. The right column will be listing the possible errors which can sometimes appear when renaming.

The preview window can't be skipped. Finally if everything seem good click on “OK”. Then the renaming is processed. The errors are written in red in the list, and with the word <ERROR> in the last column. The preview window of the example:



Tag copy

Here tags can be copied from an ID3 version to another, more exactly from the selected one in the drop-down list above the list to the other. To achieve this, the first thing to do is to choose which tags will be copied and then define how the program would act when a destination tag is not empty: it will be copied only if “Replace all fields” is checked. On the other side the reaction if the original tag is empty would be defined too. The last option allow to change case after the process, either it will not be changed either all characters will be in lowercase either tout all in uppercase either everything in lower case except the first letter of each words which will be in uppercase.

Tags generator

This feature enables tags guessing from files by cutting their names with specific separators. Firstly, the separators have to be chosen smartly. A separator is one or more characters, multiple separators can be used at the same time: using the character “.” in the box “separator” will “separate” separators. Now the file names can be exploded in multiple parts. In order to take the

content of a part and put it in a tag you must have to write in the tag textbox % follow by the part number (the number begins from one). The file extension is not a part.

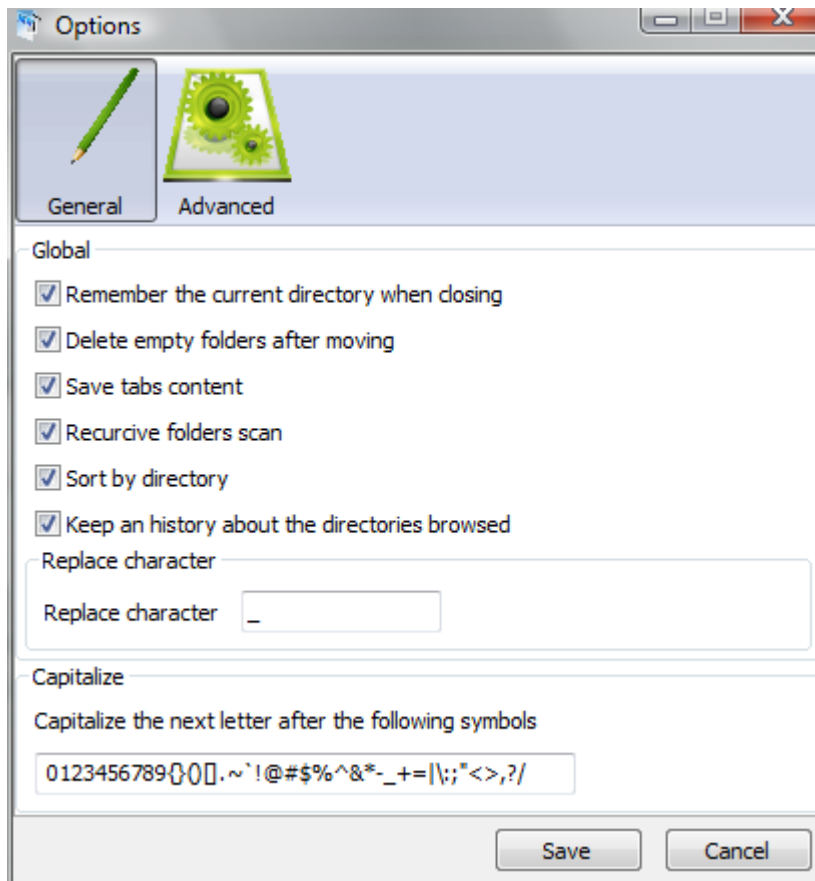
An example: if the file name is “01–Mike Oldfield–Platinum, Part 1 Airborne.mp3” only one separator is needed: “-”. So it will be exploded in 3 parts: %1 for “01”, %2 “Mike Oldfield” and %3 “Platinum, Part 1 Airborne”. The title tag will be “%3”, the artist tag “%2” and the track tag “%1”:

Lastly as for tags copy destination tags may not be overwritten and the operation may only be done if the generated tag is not empty (useful for mass generating). But it also possible to choose which tag version will be written: if “Generate ID3V2 and ID3V1” isn't checked only selected tag version will be generated. And a click on “Generate” pop-up a preview window of what all tags content will be. If the result seems ok just click on “OK”. The preview window:

3 The options

General

options

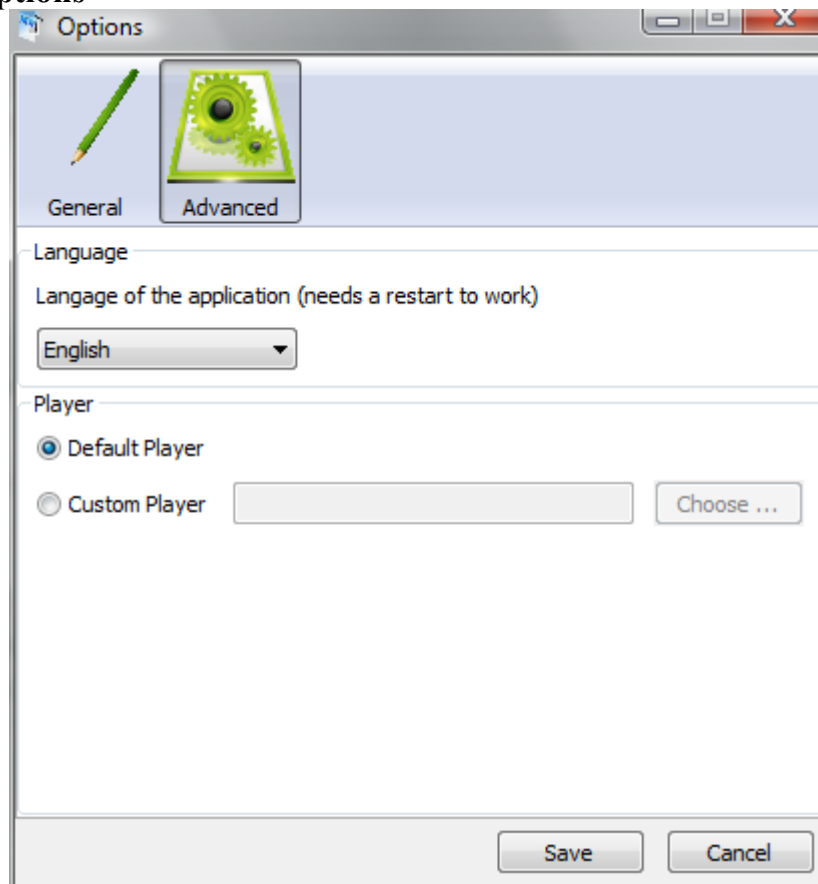


Here, available options are:

- *Remember the current directory when closing* to allow Music Organizer save the current folder in the tree when program is closed. When it's reopen the program will begin in the directory saved before (except if another folder is explicitly given to the executable with the option -p). But nothing will be scanned without any user action because if the folder has a lot of sub-directories and files it may be annoying.
- *Delete empty folders after moving*. After organizing some files with the option “Move to...” some folder may become empty. With this option checked the program will “clean” empty directories.
- *Save tabs content*. Allow Music Organizer to save all contents of the text boxes and the state of all checkboxes in the tabs when closing. The contents will be restored at the reopening.
- *Recursive folders scan*. The default action when a folder is being scanned will be the scanning of all sub-directories recursively, but sometimes it would take useless time and return unwanted files. Warning the scan of root folder under UNIX and the root of each partition under Windows will never been recursive as the number of directories and the recursively levels may be very high.
- *Sort by directory*. This option has an impact of the way the files are sorting in the list: if it's not checked one sorting will be done for all files otherwise it will done by “packing” files, a “pack” contain all files of the same folder.
- *Keep a history about the directories browsed*. To keep an history of 10 last browsed folders at the most. It can be access from to place: File > History and in the textbox above the list. Warning when option is disabled the list of saved folders will be lost for privacy.
- *Replace character*. This is the character used to replace unauthorized chars when generating files name (in Organize and Rename). It can be also have many characters, as useless as it seems.
- *Uppercase*. To choose which characters will be followed by an uppercase when using

“First letters in uppercase”

Advanced options



This tab group 2 options together : the program language, others are available here : TO BE DEFINED (they will be included in next version). And the choice of the player which is used when files in the list are double-clicked or ENTER key is pressed. On the Unix systems, if binary program is in the PATH just wrote his name (on Windows generally it isn't in the PATH so wrote the full path to it).