

Adaptive Technology Center for New Jersey Colleges

Converting Electronic Text into MP3 Files

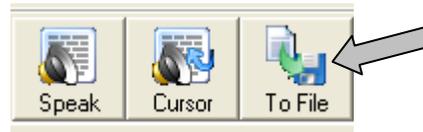
The ability to access print material in audio formats is a powerful tool for students who have reading difficulties. This resource sheet provides step-by-step instructions on how to convert electronic text into MP3 files that can be listened to on iPods and other portable MP3 players.

Converting Electronic Text into Audio Formats

TextAloud is text-to-speech software that uses voice synthesis to create spoken audio from text. You can listen to text spoken by AT&T Natural Voices directly on your PC or save text to MP3 or wave files for listening later. *TextAloud* reads text from email, web pages, Word documents and most PDF files aloud on your computer. It can convert these text files into MP3 or Windows Media files ready for playback on your iPod, PC, PocketPC, or even on your TV with Tivo's Home Media Option. College students can now convert their required reading assignments into a portable audio format so they can study/read on the go. *TextAloud* can be downloaded for a 30 day demo at www.textaloud.com.

To convert text to an audio file in *TextAloud* simply follow the steps below:

1. Open text in TextAloud
2. Click on the "To File" Button
3. Select location to save audio file
4. Enter a file name and click "OK."



Welcome_to_T
extAloud

*Example of audio file
created in TextAloud*

To Listen to audio file:

1. Browse to saved audio file and open using your computer's audio player.
2. You may choose to burn your MP3 files to a CD, transfer them to a MP3 player (iPod, cell phone, etc.) or store them on your USB thumb/key drive.

WYNN & Kurzweil 3000, two powerful scan-read software programs, now offer options to save text files in an audio format.

To create an audio file in *WYNN*, follow the steps below:

1. Open a document using *WYNN*.
 2. Select the **File** menu and choose the **Save to Audio** command.
 3. The Save Pages dialog box appears.
 4. Do one of the following:
 - a. Select the Save Current Page radio button to convert only the current page to an MP3 or WAV file.
- OR**
- b. Select the Save Page Range radio button to convert the entire document or a range of pages to an MP3 file.
5. Select the **OK** button. The **Save As** dialog box appears.
 6. Enter a file name in the **File name** edit box, and select the **Save** button.

To listen to the file:

1. Select your WYNN file folder icon, which appears on your desktop.
2. Select the MP3 or WAV file.
3. The file opens using your default audio player.

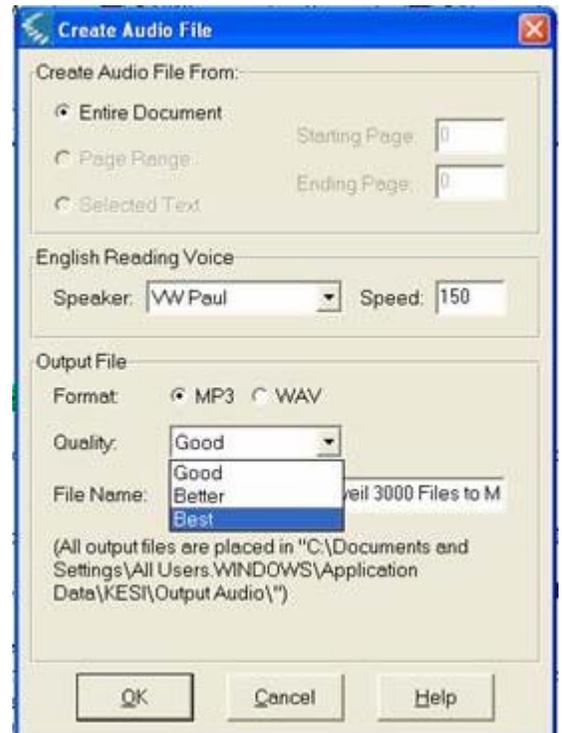
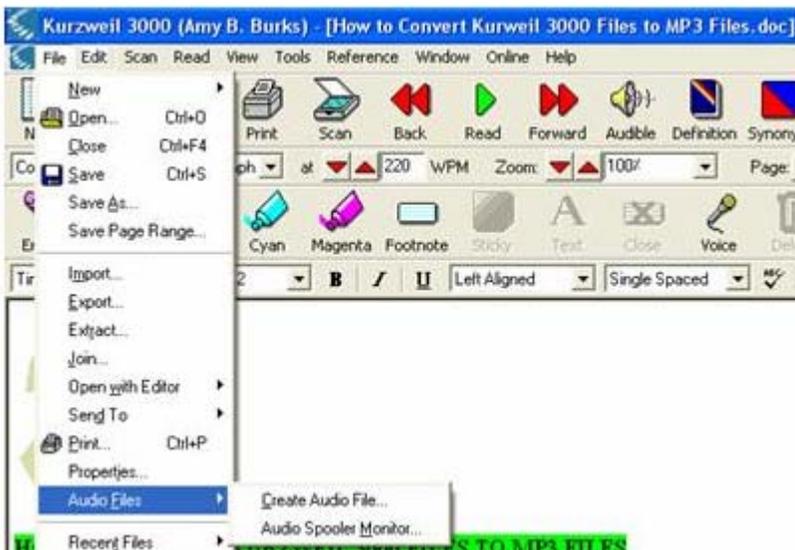
Product information for WYNN can be found at: www.freedomscientific.com/WYNN/index.asp

To create an audio file in *Kurzweil 3000*, follow the steps below:

1. Open the text you would like to convert in *Kurzweil 3000*.
2. Select the File drop down menu, choose Audio Files then Create Audio File:
 - a. File > Audio Files > Create Audio File (see image below).
3. A window will appear, prompting you to select your reading rate and voice for your audio files. Be sure to test out several different voices and rates before continuing on with the conversion process.
4. Under Quality select "best" (see image below).
5. After changing the options select "OK" and the conversion process will begin.

To listen to the audio file:

1. All files will be sent to the *Kurzweil 3000* Pending Audio folder on your Desktop.
2. After the audio files have finished converting to audio files they will be sent to the *Kurzweil 3000* Output Audio folder on your Desktop.
3. You may choose to burn your MP3 files to a CD, transfer them to a MP3 player (iPod, cell phone, etc.) or store them on your USB thumb/key drive.



Product information for Kurzweil 3000 can be found at: www.kurzweiledu.com