

Turning vinyl Records into CDs with GarageBand and iTunes

Using the version of GarageBand in iLife 6 and the current version of iTunes we will record from a turntable onto the computer's hard drive.

First make the connections between the turntable and the Mac. Connect the red and white RCA leads to the stereo receiver as usual. Connect the output to tape jacks on the receiver to a Griffin iMic using an RCA to stereo miniplug adapter. If you aren't using a receiver, use a turntable with a USB port. Connect the turntable's USB cable to the Mac.

Launch GarageBand, and open its preferences. Under Audio/MIDI choose Audio Input and set it to USB Codec. Close the Preferences.

Under Edit choose New Track... Choose Real Instrument. Input source should say Stereo ½ (Usb Audio Codec). Set monitor to On, so you can hear the music from the turntable. Start the turntable and play a record. Adjust recording level. When ready, click the red Record button. Waveforms fill the track. Click Record again to stop. Can record a whole album side if you like. Under Share pull down to Send Song to iTunes. Song is converted and sent to iTunes.

In iTunes create a new playlist and drag the song to the playlist. iTunes will only burn a CD of songs from a playlist. Repeat this process for other tracks. When you are satisfied with the sequence and number of songs, click the Burn Disc button at the bottom of the iTunes window. iTunes will create an audio CD of the songs from your vinyl record.