

# How to Flawlessly Use EAC to Rip on Windows

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**This guide details the steps you must take for each disc you rip. Before you continue, make sure you have configured EAC according to the EAC Setup Guide.**

This guide was made for EAC version 1.0 beta 2 and will not completely work with earlier versions. Versions 0.99 or earlier should use the blowfish guide.

Anything with a green outline around it is a required setting. Anything orange is required but depends on your drive. Anything unmarked is optional.

This is meant to be a no-frills guide with little extra info. A more comprehensive (but outdated) guide can be found here:

[http://www.afterdawn.com/guides/archive/rip\\_cds\\_with\\_exact\\_audio\\_copy.cfm](http://www.afterdawn.com/guides/archive/rip_cds_with_exact_audio_copy.cfm)

## Step 1: Tagging

The screenshot shows the Exact Audio Copy (EAC) software interface. The CD metadata fields are highlighted with a green box:

CD Title	Collider	Year	2011	CD Composer	
CD Artist	Sam Roberts Band	Genre	Rock	Comment	
CD Performer		freedb	Rock		

The track list table is also highlighted with a green box:

Track	Title	Artist	Composer	Lyrics	Start	Length	Gap
1	The Last Crusade	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:00:00.00	0:04:18.46	0:00:02.00
2	Without a Map	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:04:18.46	0:04:06.88	0:00:00.00
3	Let It In	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:08:25.34	0:04:19.18	0:00:01.58
4	Graveyard Shift	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:12:44.53	0:04:27.84	0:00:01.41
5	No Arrows	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:17:12.37	0:04:27.26	0:00:00.00
6	Longitude	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:21:39.64	0:03:19.76	0:00:02.33
7	Streets of Heaven (Promises, Promises)	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:24:59.40	0:04:26.50	0:00:00.86
8	Sang Froid	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:29:25.90	0:03:30.74	0:00:00.00
9	Twist the Knife	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:32:56.65	0:04:13.82	0:00:00.73
10	I Feel You	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:37:10.48	0:05:17.62	0:00:00.00
11	The Band vs the World	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:42:28.10	0:04:10.88	0:00:01.56
12	Partition Blues	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:46:38.98	0:04:12.84	0:00:01.37
13	Tractor Beam Blues	Sam Roberts Band		Add	0:50:51.82	0:04:57.26	0:00:01.97

The CD cover image is highlighted with a green box. The 'First track number' field is highlighted with a green box.

The status bar at the bottom shows: Audio CD in drive, 13 Tracks, 0:55:49.09 h:m:s.m, 563.41 MB / 418.63 MB, FLAC 8 (Complete), Load, Save, New, Delete.

So now let's look at the main window. Be sure everything is named correctly here, as these will be the tags on your ripped files. If you're ripping a classical CD, you may wish to fill in the Composer/Performer fields. Also note: the Comment field doesn't currently work.

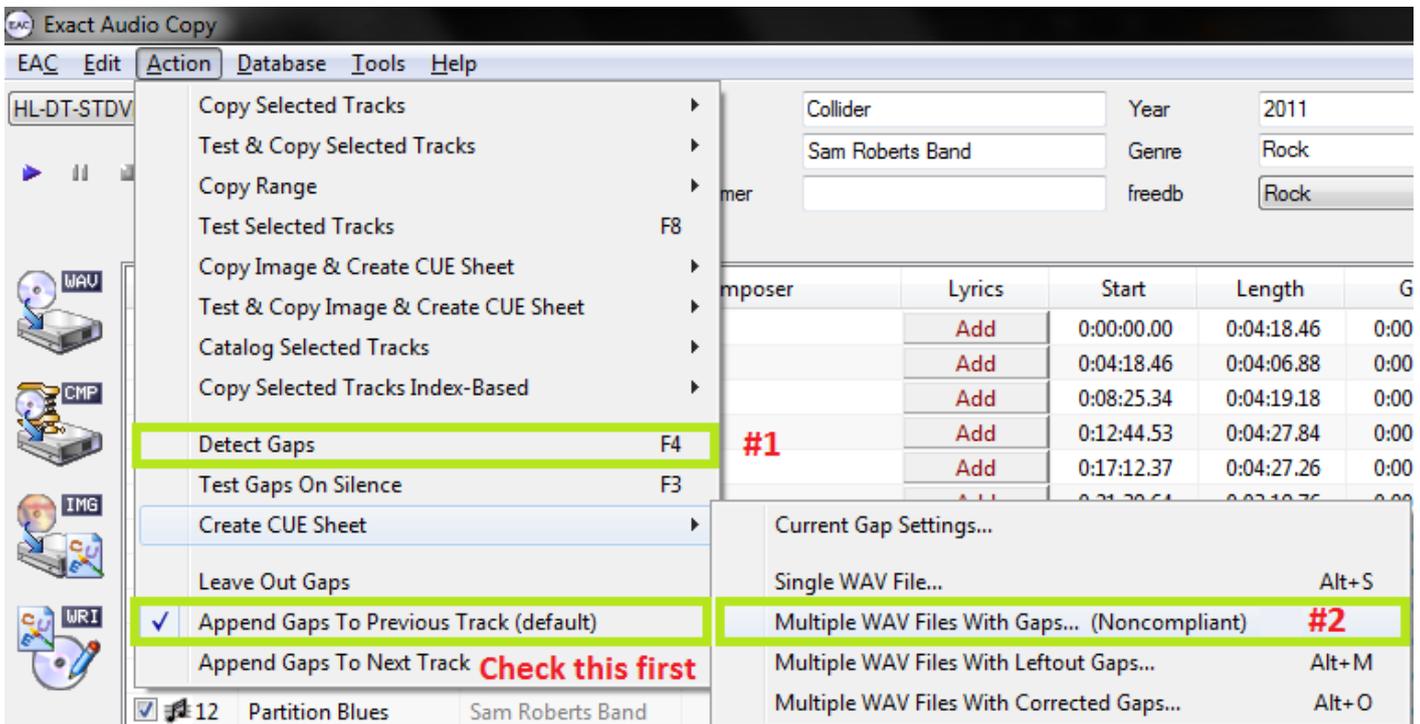
Drag a cover image into the EAC window. I think ~500x500 is a decent size in most cases. Google images is your friend here.

If you're ripping a box set, you may wish to use the options under the cover image, otherwise leave them all as "1".

Finally, if you want to add lyrics to the tracks, use the "Lyrics" button.

Note: I've also highlighted the "New" button where you can save your settings. This is not a necessary step each time you rip.

## Step 2: Gap Detection and Cuesheets



The pre-rip stuff happens here. Make sure "Append Gaps to Previous Track (default)" is checked. It should be. Next, hit the options in the order shown.

First, hit "Detect Gaps". This is very important, your rip will fail the logchecker if you do not complete this step. If the first track is highlighted in red, you have a hidden track. You'll want to look at this wiki article: [EAC - Ripping pre-gap hidden tracks \(HTOA\)](#).

Next, go to Create CUE Sheet -> Multiple WAV Files With Gaps... (Noncompliant). This is usually where I create the folder for ripping as well. Do NOT rip your tracks to any directory containing your name. You should NEVER edit a log for any reason, especially now that we have checksums. A

simple C:\EAC Rips is fine.

I name my directories as follows:  
Artist - Album (Year) [Format] {Extra}

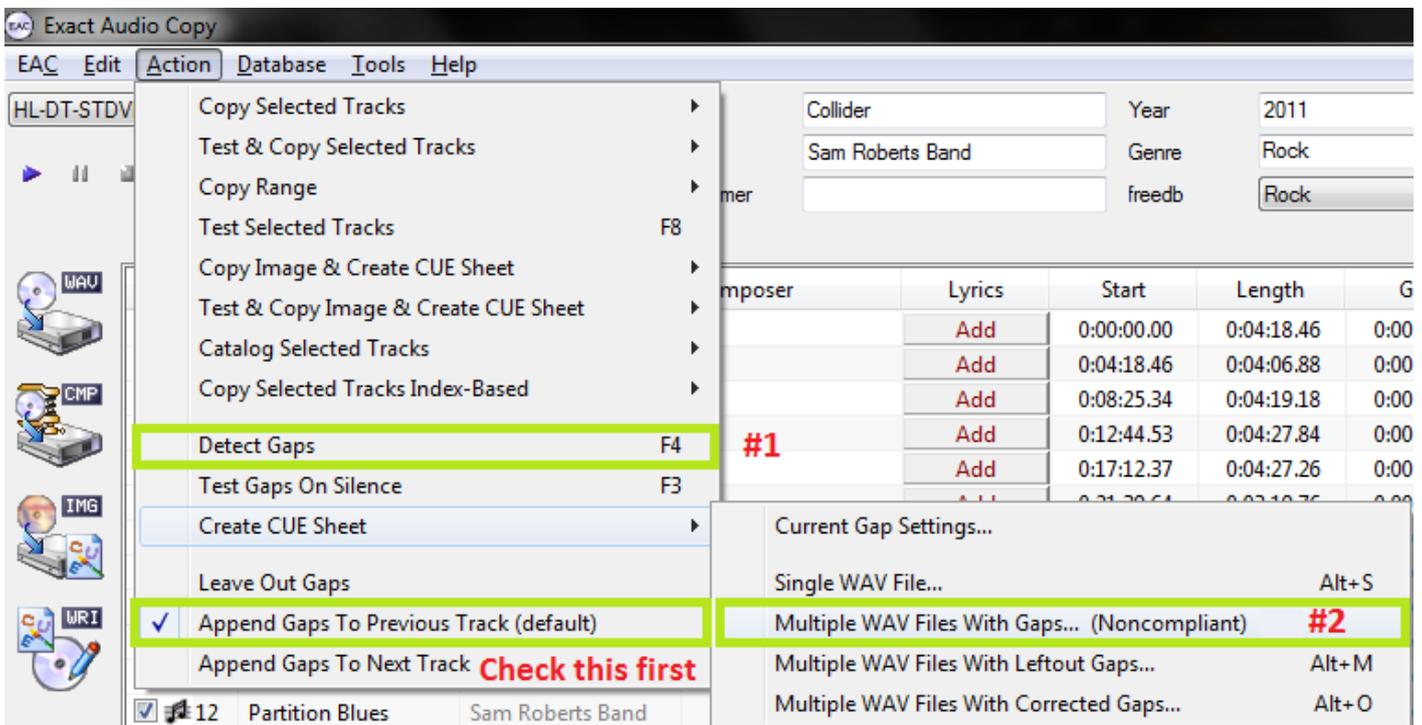
So for example, with the album in the screenshots, it'd be

Sam Roberts Band - Collider (2011) [FLAC] {UMC 0252764577}

However, as long as it contains the album name and no nested folders (don't do \Artist\Album\), you're fine by the rules here.

Anyway, make the folder, save the .cue file into it. I usually just name mine Noncompliant.cue, it doesn't really matter.

## Step 3: Ripping



Finally, the rip itself! Make sure all the tracks are checkmarked in the main window unless there are some you don't want to rip.

Test & Copy -> Compressed.

Depending on your drive and whether or not the CD is scratched, this could take anywhere from ten minutes to four hours. Be patient.

## Step 4: Post-Rip

So you're done! You may wish to use [logchecker.php](#) to check and make sure your rip is proper, but if you followed this guide, the only possible errors would be with the CD itself. It does happen... some CDs are too badly damaged, even for EAC. Your best bet is to clean the CD and try again.

Other than that, it never hurts to make sure your files are tagged and named properly (though they should be). Any extra stuff you want to include should be added now as well... Additional artwork, an md5 fingerprint, an info.txt file, that sort of thing. If you don't want to do any of that, it's time to find yourself an uploading guide!

## Checking Log Integrity with CheckLog.exe

You can only check EAC logs with the EAC CheckLog.exe utility; XLD logs must be checked with XLD (or [the Windows utility for checking XLD log files.](#))

To check the integrity of an EAC log, do the following:

1. Open Windows Explorer and navigate to the folder where the log file is stored.
2. Open Windows Explorer and navigate to the folder where EAC is installed. (Typically **C:\Program Files (x86)\Exact Audio Copy** or **C:\Program Files\Exact Audio Copy** on 32bit Windows.)
3. Make a copy of the log file to be tested, inside the EAC folder.
4. Open a Command Prompt window (press the Start button and type "command" and click on "Command Prompt" from the list above.)
5. In the Command Prompt window, change directories to the EAC folder by typing or copying/pasting\* **cd\Program Files (x86)\Exact Audio Copy** (or wherever EAC is installed) and press **Enter** (\*Right-click to paste inside the Command Prompt, rather than pressing Ctrl+V.). Alternatively, when viewing the EAC folder, press Shift+Right-Click and choose "Open command window here". This will open a new command prompt window that will already be loaded in the EAC folder directory.
6. Type **checklog**, space, and type/copy+paste the full name of the log file (enclose its file name in double-quotation marks if it includes any spaces) and press **Enter**. Ex: **checklog "Some Band - Some Album.log" ENTER**
7. (Alternatively, instead of copying the log file over, you can just paste the full path to the original log file, including the file name and extension, and enclose it all in double-quotation marks, if the UAC prompts are annoying. Ex: **checklog "E:\Path\To\Torrent\Folder\Some Band - Some Album.log" ENTER**)
8. It will output a line **Log Integrity Checker (C) 2010 by Andre Wiethoff** and then another, which will either display **1. Log entry is fine!** or **1. Log entry was modified, checksum incorrect!** - the latter means it's been edited/forged, the former means it checks out okay.
9. If you discover an EAC log from a torrent you snatched fails this test, then you should report that torrent for the reason **Edited Log** and explain that it failed to pass EAC's checklog utility.

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