

Using Audacity for Echo Location Sound-mapping.

1 - GET YOUR SOUNDS ONTO THE COMPUTER

Make a folder with your name on it

Plug the ZOOM recorder into the computer with the USB lead

The ZOOM needs to be switched off

Copy the files from the ZOOM into your folder....

Eject the ZOOM and unplug it – make sure it is switched off

2 – OPEN AUDACITY

Go to the top menu – FILE then OPEN – then select your first file to edit.

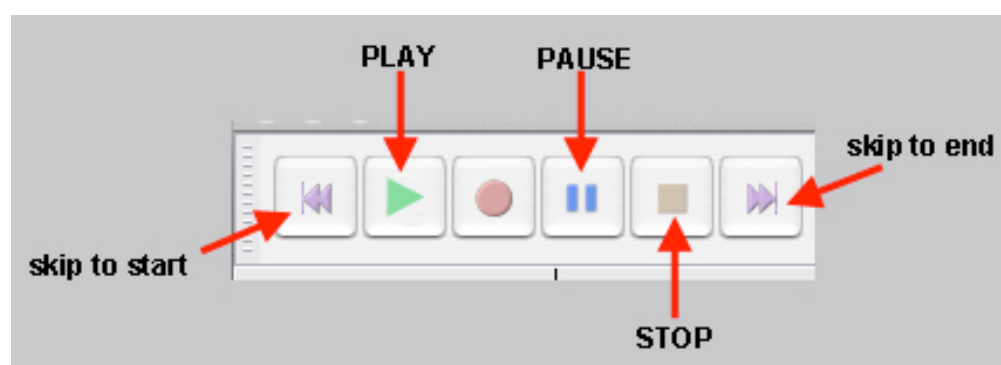
3 – LISTEN TO YOUR FILE

Use play, stop, and pause to listen, you can also use the SPACE BAR to play and stop.

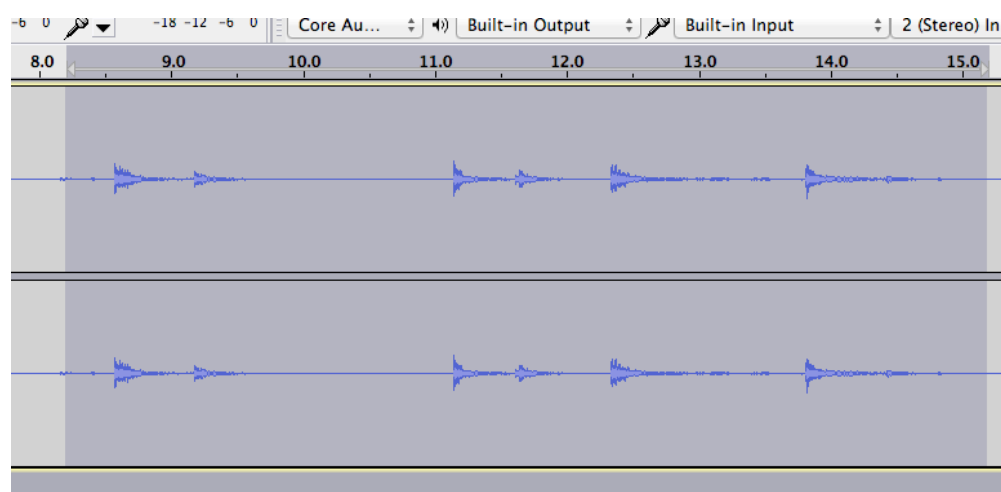
Click the ‘return to start’ if you need to return to the very start of the file.

Select an area to play using click and drag with the mouse.

When you have a selection made, each time you press play, stop then play again... it just plays that part... get used to the controls



Highlighted section:



3 – MAKE A SELECTION

Zoom in and out of your file to make this easier using the magnifying glass tools



Highlight the section you want to keep – you can adjust the boundaries of your highlighted area by going to the start and end points – the cursor will turn into a little hand, which you can use to drag the start or end points

4 – When you are happy with this - go to EDIT - COPY

then FILE - NEW

then PASTE - your selection will now be in a new workspace.

5 – IS IT THE RIGHT VOLUME?

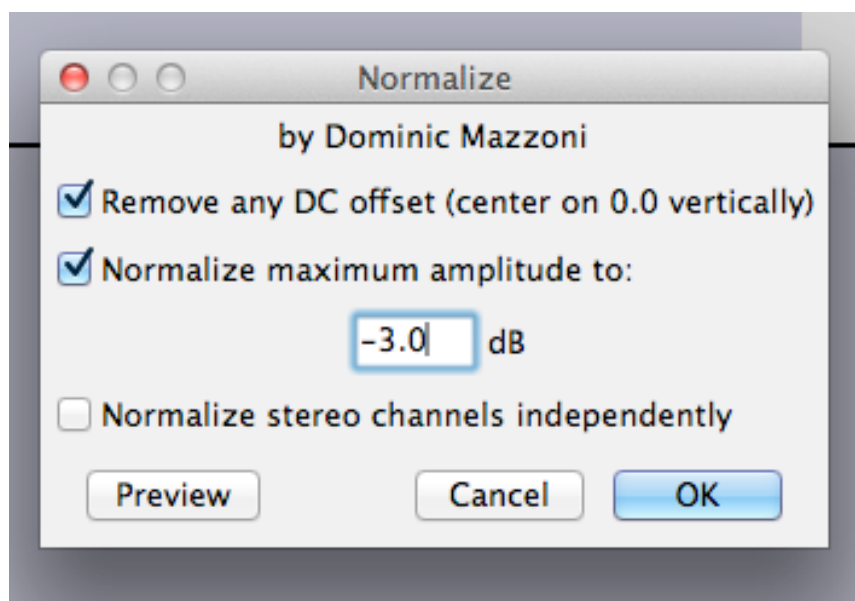
If your sound is too quiet, you can boost the volume

Select the whole file (EDIT – SELECT ALL)

And then EFFECT – NORMALIZE

To make sure it doesn't sound too hissy or loud – type in “-3.0 “

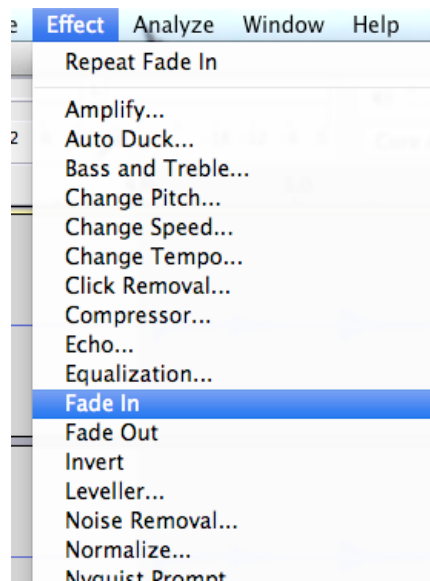
Before clicking OK - you can ask for help with this if you need it.



6 – ADD FADES

If you want to - you can add a fade in and fade out

Select a short section at the start of the sound – then go to EFFECT – FADE IN



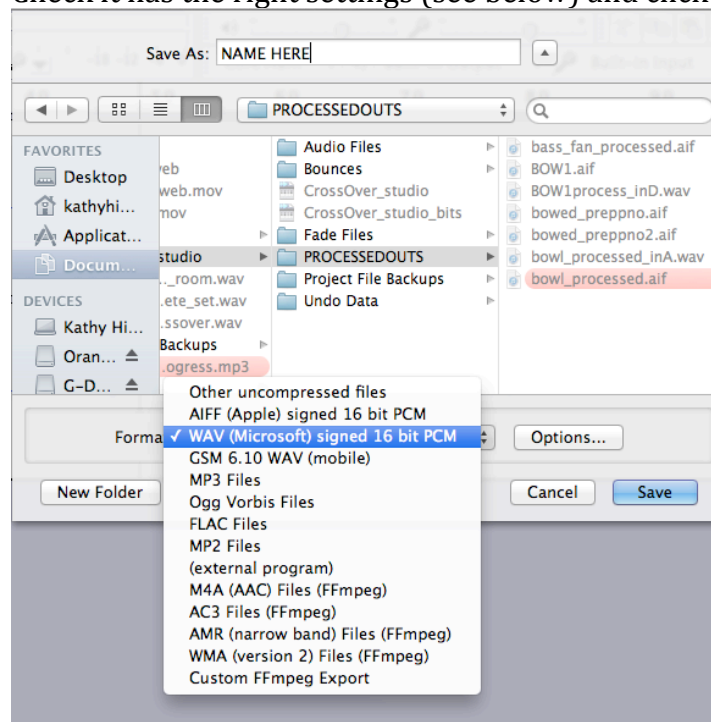
... Do the same at the other end to FADE OUT

6 – FINISH AND EXPORT

make sure you are happy with the sound, then go to FILE – EXPORT

name your edited sound, and make sure your folder is selected as the place it will be saved to

Check it has the right settings (see below) and click SAVE



OOPS!!! - I MADE A MISTAKE!!!!

At any point you can select EDIT – UNDO to undo the last action you did.

7 – I WANT TO EDIT ANOTHER SOUND

Close the window of the file you have been editing –
you DON'T NEED TO SAVE IT...
you have exported it as a newly named file, and it is saved. ¹

You can go back to our original file and find another section to edit out

Or close that file (NO NEED TO SAVE IT) and open a new one to work from.

¹ (You can only upload and use the exported WAV files - the workspaces in Audacity are editing projects, so if you save those, they can be used for editing again – but they WON'T upload to audioboo because they are not sound files – they are editing projects)