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How to extract an acapella from a DVD

I'm going to explain how to extract audio from a DVD using DVD Audio Extractor, which you can find fully functional demo version following the previous link. Then I'm gonna last longer on the entirely free solution, a bit more complicated (it just takes two steps), using these 2 pieces of software: DVD Decrypter, BeSweet and its GUI, BeLight, browse them into the list.

I'm also going to give a small outline of the treatments you can apply before using the acapella you got from the extraction. I've been using Adobe Audition but a free software like Audacity will probably be as effective.

For this example, I used the Led Zeppelin DVD, concentrating on 2 songs from the Knebworth show: Whole Lotta Love and Kashmir.

Let's Begin with DVD Audio Extractor.

Normally, when the DVD is inserted, your default DVD software player is closed and DVD Audio Extractor is open, you should obtain something like this:

Step 1 of 4 Select th	Select the chapters you want to extract			1	ND Anton		
DVD-Wdeo Source:	[E:] SAM	ISUNG - DVD	ROM SD-616E (P500)	¥		2	
- Title8 [00:02:16]	•	Select All	Chapter	Length	Cells	Sectors	
Title9 [02:05:49]		01	Title12 - Chapter 01	3:58	1	103546	
Title10 [00:23:19	1	02	Title12 - Chapter 02	5:48	1	157177	
Title11 [00:48:10		00	Title12 - Chapter 03	5:17	1	136799	
Title12 [00:49:59		04	Title12 - Chapter 04	10:21	1	277343	
Tale14 (00:04:04		05	Title12 - Chapter 05	6:54	1	186001	
Tele15 [00:04:10		06	Kashmir	9:00	1	241923	
Tele16 [00:00:47	1 ¥	07	Title12 - Chapter 07	7:12	1	193213	
		08	Title12 - Chapter 08	1:25	1	35556	
English LPCM (48kHz 1 English AC3 (48kHz 60 English DTS (48kHz 50	6bit 2Cf (h) (h)	09	Title12 - Chapter 09	0:01	1	17	
<] u	10						
	M)				

Into such a DVD with lots of parts, you have to find and identify what you're looking for (you can also extract everything in a row but it will soon occupy much disk space). Anyway, the green "player" buttons in the lower part are really helpful for that. You can also rename the songs you're going to extract so you won't spend more time to look for the song you'd like to use.

Then you have to select the right audio language, that must contain 5 or 6 channels (mention 5ch / 6ch, DTS or AC3).

Click Next

ich format you w	ant to use for encoding \mathbb{D}	WD Anter Contraction
Output Format	R WAY PCM Uncompressed Wave	*
Stee	Sample Rate Same as input v Channels Al 6 Channels v Bits per sample 24 bits v Save each channel into separate file	
	ich format you w Output Pormat	ich format you want to use for encoding Output Format Coutput Format Channels Al 6 Channels Bits per sample Save each channel into separate file Size of the output files will be around 444.95 Mb.

Choose Wave PCM Uncompressed format into the menu "Output Format", Same as Input for the Sample Rate (personally I prefer using conversion from a dedicated sotware), All 6 Channels, and finally, very important, 24 bits for the menu bits per sample (we'll only convert into 16 bits when the result is correctly normalised, even if we can still use the obtained acapella in 24 bits).

Next:

DVD Audio Extract Step 3 of 4 Setup out	ter 3.3.3 put file location and o	other settings	DUD Anter
Output Location	C:(trade)DVD Rip	×	Ø
Split tracks by che	pter h the same name £	Normalization Finable normalization, change max le Low 100.0% (0.00d8)	vel to High
ID3 Tag Enable ID3 Ta Artist	a Abum	Year	
Help		cc Back Next >	> Fuit

Here, you choose where you want to extract the 6 channels of the song (keep around 500 MB free, plus if it's a full concert, it counts into GB)

Here again, don't click on "Enable normalization", it's preferrable to do it with another software.

You can unmark "Overwrite Files" if you fear to erase some other files with the same name.

Next:

DVD Audio Extractor 3	3.3.3	
tep 4 of 4 Start encoding	g and watch the process	DUD
Thread Priority: normal		
After encoding, do this:	Do nothing	
	SCALE FOR ST	
	Sar In Forse	-000
- Encoding status	A Losse	200
Encoding status	A Losse	
Encoding status	Zar Core	
Encoding status	Zar Core	

You can select another option than "Do Nothing", if you want to quit the program after extraction or extract another song.

Click on Start:

DVD Audio Extractor 3	1.3.3	
Step 4 of 4 Start encoding	g and watch the process	DUD Ander
Thread Priority: normal		
After encoding, do this:	Do nothing	
Encoding status Processing chapter 1 of 2	1. Time elapsed: 00:01:50, time ren	naining: 00:01:33 54% finished
Writing to C:\trade\DVD	Ripl(Cashmir.wav.	54% finished.
Help	Restart << Back	Next >> Exit

Admire.

When the extraction is over, you should be able to see in the directory you selected for the extraction, something like this:

×	Nom	Talle	Type	Date de mo
~	Kashmir(ch1).wav	75 934 Ko	Son Wave	10/04/2006 19:11
	Kashmir(ch2).wav	75 934 Ko	Son Wave	10/04/2006 19:11
	Kashmir(ch3).wav	75 934 Ko	Son Wave	10/04/2006 19:11
	Kashmir(ch4).wav	75 934 Ko	Son Wave	10/04/2006 19:11
	Kashnir(ch5).wav	75 934 Ko	Son Wave	10/04/2006 19:11
	Kashmir(ch6).wav	75 934 Ko	Son Wave	10/04/2006 19:11

From the 6 files, you can generally keep channel 1 or 2 plus channel 3, that can contain the voice alone or almost or even not at all. Sometimes if it contains voice + drums, you only need to keep the third channel.

Let's see how we get to use the duo DVD Decrypter featuring BeLight/BeSweet.

DVD Decrypter is more complicated than DVD Audio Extractor and does less things, it will only extract a VOB file (containing video, different audio channels and subtitles sometimes) or, if you are willing to manage, the audio channel alone in AC3. We're gonna try to manage...

When the DVD is inserted, soft player closed and DVD Decrypter open, you should get something like this:



If it doesn't display the way you see it on this picture, click "IFO" into menu "Mode". Here again, choose the destination folder.

In this example, I proceed on a chapter of the same concert as previously, and here, it's even harder to select the right song you want (the proof is I screwed up myself and chose the wrong song). However, if you get help from your usual DVD software player (like Power DVD or WiMP), you can easily find the right song without being wrong.

As we are impatient beasts who only want to get the audio from the DVD, we click on the tab "Stream Processing".



First, you click on "Enable Stream Processing", then you unclick all that's uninteresting to us, only keeping the desired audio channel. Click on Demux (short word for demultiplexing).

Click on the icon that represents the transfer from a DVD to a hard drive.

DVD Dec	rypter			
le View H	telp			
Destination				
C:\trac	le\DVD Rip\			
Free Space:	6 065 364 KB			
Information				
VTS / PGC:	9 / 4 - [00:49:59.22 / 25 fps]	Transferred:	8 338 KB	
Size:	386 426 KB	Read Errors:	0	
Cell:	7 - [00:07:12.01 / 25 fps]	Read Rate:	6 877 KB/s (5.0x)	
LBA:	3698389 - 3891601	Time Elapsed:	00:00:20	
Key:	C0 00 00 00 09	Time Remaining:	00:00:37	
Complete				34%
Buffer				0%
tracting Sec	tors			

Admire; in our example, it takes less than a minute.

In the directory you've picked for the extraction, you find something like:

×	Nom	Talle	Туре	Date de mo A
-	5vts_09_0.1F0	104 Ko	fichier video ifo	10/04/2006 19:59
	VTS_09 - Chapter Information - OGG.txt	1 Ko	Document texte	10/04/2006 20:00
	VTS_09 - Stream Information.txt	1 Ko	Document texte	10/04/2006 20:00
	VTS_09_1 - 0x81 - Audio - AC3 - 6ch - 48kHz	23 624 Ko	Winamp media file	10/04/2006 20:00

Only the AC3 file (that's about 20 MB) is interesting.

In the next step, you have to close DVD Decrypter and open BeLight which is a GUI (Graphic User Interface) for BeSweet.

When you install BeLight and BeSweet, put them into the same directory, it will be much easier.

I Settings Dynamic Compression : Normal RC Output Sampling Rate : 44100 Hz at Boost Mode : LgH Weet OTA Mode : HybridGain Delay : -160 ms	AC3 wit Forms wit Channel 16 Bits 16 Bits 16 Bits 32 Bits	MP2 (AV ets : 6.1 Way : Stereo 1 : (So;) Mo : (So;) Mo	MP3 (Wave one Wave one Wave	VORBIS AIFF IS	WAVIPCM	D-WAV

Drag and drop the AC3 file (even 2, 3 or 156 AC3 files if you like) that's interesting to us on the BeLight window.

Click on the tab WAV/PCM and select 32 bits / six Mono waves.

Normally, there's nothing else to touch. Click on Start Processing:

24,00 % - BeLight			
Edit Options Presets ?			
C.tredel/DVD RpIVTS_09_1 - 0x81 - Audio - AC3 - 6ch - 48kHz - 0	ORC - English - DELAY -160r	ns AC3	
ETA Infos:			
Time Events	Options		
Q 20:20:13 Transcoding started. Q 20:20:13 VTS_09_1 - 0x81 - Audio - AC3 - 6ch - 48kH Q 20:20:13 Transcoding is running	-Schfloot		
éoba.:			
Current Track : 24,00 %	Time Bapsed:	00:00:11	
	Time Remaining:	00:00:37	
Total : 24,07 %	Total Time Elapsed: Total Time Remaining:	00:00:11 00:00:37	0

Admire.

In the same folder that contains the AC3 file, you'll find six Wave files:



This time, only keep the file that ends with C (for Central) and, if you need it, the one ending with FL or FR (a.k.a. Front Left, Front Right).

Rendez-vous into the audio editor...

Before we use our files into Acid (or else), we're going to to do some treatment and edits:

I used Audition but logically, all these operations can be done using a free software like Audacity.



When you'll have loaded the 2 files you're interested in, you can place them into two different channels of the multitrack editor (2nd button into the first toolbar), so you can edit bits that interest you, but I think it can be worth another tutorial to explain that.

🕼 Kashmir (ch3), way - Adobe Audition	R
Fichier Edition Affichage Effets Générer Analyser Favoris Options Fenêtre Aide	
Fichiers source Effets Farrow	
	-
	2 8 8 8 4 9
Dieve Fri Duter Sei 013.000 0.25.000 0.12.00 Viel 013.000 0.25.000 0.12.00	00
an	ō A

If you want to see your acapella in the edition mode (1st button 1st toolbar), you can see it's peaking at -9 dB (right-click on the vertical ruler in the right to display the unit you like). You also see there are remains of backgroud music, that makes us think that we could get rid of the ch1 file.



Let's improve our sound.

Rather than normalizing right away, we're going to use the Dynamics FX (it can be used as a limiter, compressor, expander, noise gate) into Effects Menu > Amplitude. In our case, we're going to use a -12 dB Soft Limiter (this number depends on the sound you're editing sometimes -6 dB will be enough). See the kind of curve you get if you want to apply the same effect into another software or VST pugin.

When the effect's applied, you still need to normalize (unless the limiter was enough).

Normaliser	×
🔽 Normaliser à 🔲 dB	
🔽 Format décibels	
📕 Normaliser G/D à l'identique	Annuler
🔽 DC Bias Adjust 0 %	Aide

Normalize at 0 dB (well -0.1 if you want too) or 100%. Let the DC Bias Adjust at 0%.

When the sound is normalized, push F11 on your keyboard, that opens the conversion dialog box (in other editors that operation can be done in two different steps: Resample et Bit Depth Conversion):

onvertir type	d'échantil	lons	Ŀ
ionvertir de 48000Hz Mono 32 bits Préconfiguration de conversion des taux d'échantillonnage			
Taux d'échantilo	00308		- Résolution -
44100 192000 96000 48000 44100 32000	Hz	C Mgno C Stéréo Mixage gauche 100 % Mixage droit 100 %	16 32
22050 16000 11025 8000		Dither Activer le dithering Profondeur de dither (bits)	OK
▼ Filtre pré/po	999 st	p.d.f. Gaussien mis en forme Mise en forme du bruit (44,1K	Annuler Ai <u>d</u> e

pick 44100, Mono, 16 bits.

Click OK, Save your file.

Your acapella is ready unless you want to cut it into pieces but that's another story...