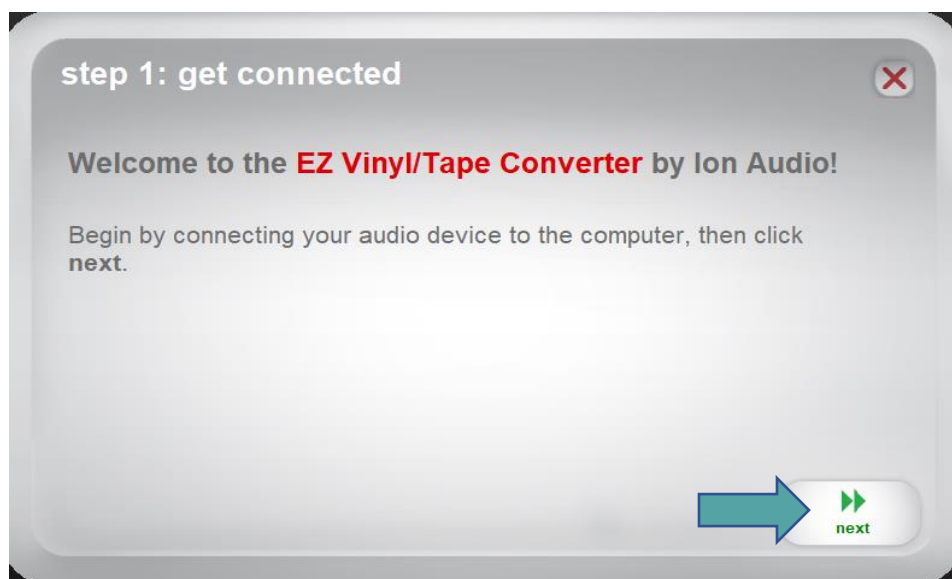


Ion Tape Express Plus

Connecting the Ion Tape Express Converter

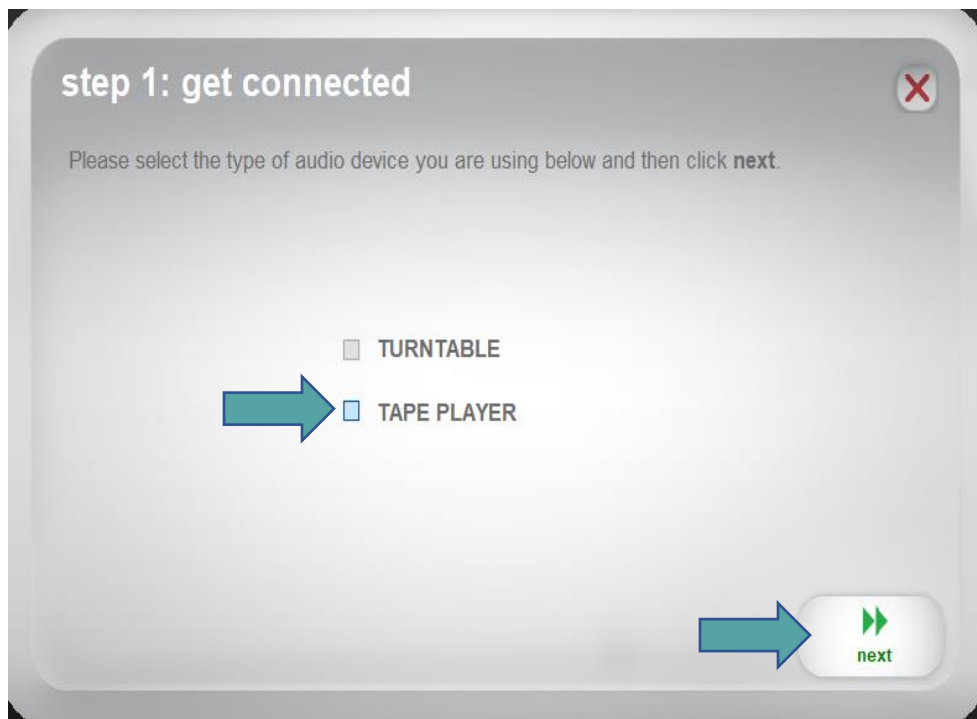
When you start up the software you will be prompted to connect the tape converter to the computer. If you haven't already, insert the USB cable into the PC and the other end into the Ion Tape Converter. Once it is connected click next.



Select the Media For Conversion

You will need to select Tape Player as this is the only option currently available. To select Tape Player click on the square box next to the name. Then hit next.

Note: The square box will turn blue when it has been selected. It will not display a check mark, X, or other visual cue.



Chrome vs Normal Tape

Depending on the type and manufacturing of the cassette tape you have best results can be achieved by selecting one of the two options. If you have a ferric or ferricobalt tape select “normal” if you have a chromium dioxide or metal particle tape select “chrome”

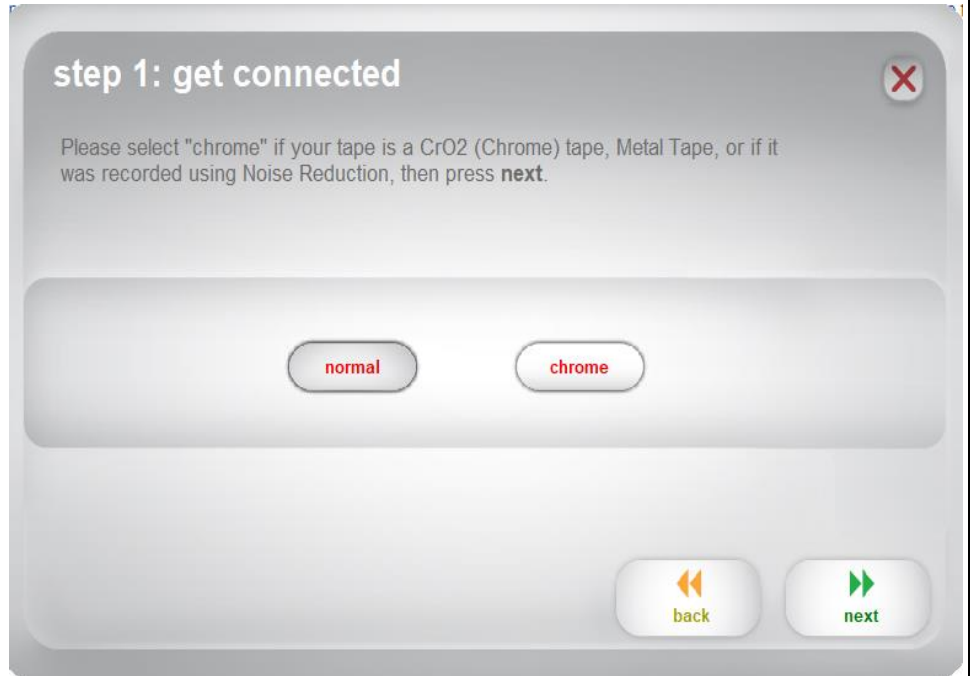
See the diagrams below for an overview of identifying different tape types:

Identifying Your Tape Type



Source: Wikimedia

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cassette_tape_colour,_examples_of_four_different_formulation.jpg





If your tape looks like this, then select "normal"

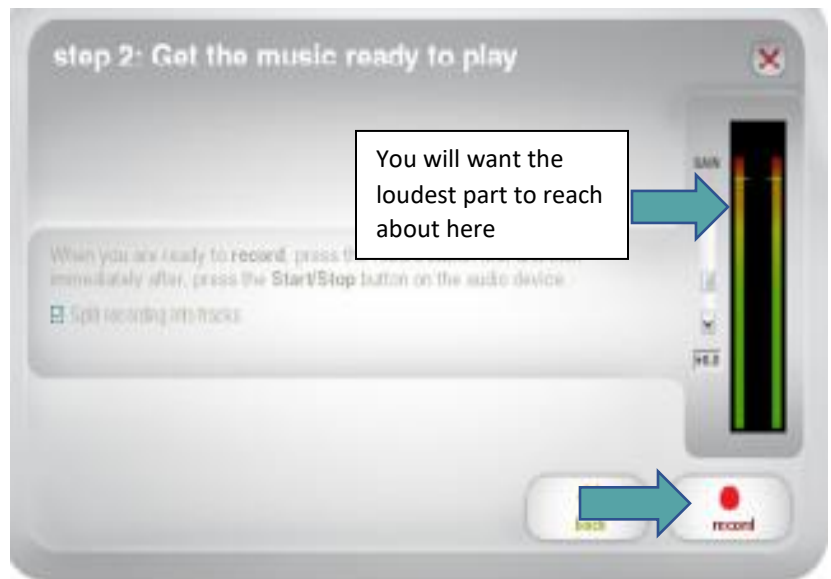
If your tape looks like this, then select "chrome"

Source: Wikimedia https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cassettes_I_II_IV.jpg

Preparing to Record

Locate the beginning of the section you would like to record. We recommend checking your levels before you begin recording. You can do this by starting a recording and then hitting the "back" arrow to adjust based on the levels.

Adjust the "gain" control adjust the gain slider in the software next to the volume level meter (the loudest part of the song should reach the orange part of the meter). By clicking on the up and down arrows you can adjust the sound level of the converted recording



Before you start recording make sure your headphones are plugged into the Ion Tape Express and the volume slider is turned up. Otherwise you won't be able to hear the recording and may not sound good when digitized.

Note: If the software detects a prolonged silence it will assume the current track has ended and will split the recording into separate tracks. For best results, make sure your volume levels reach the orange part of the software's volume meter during the loudest parts of the recording. Otherwise the sound may be too loud (red) or too quiet (green).

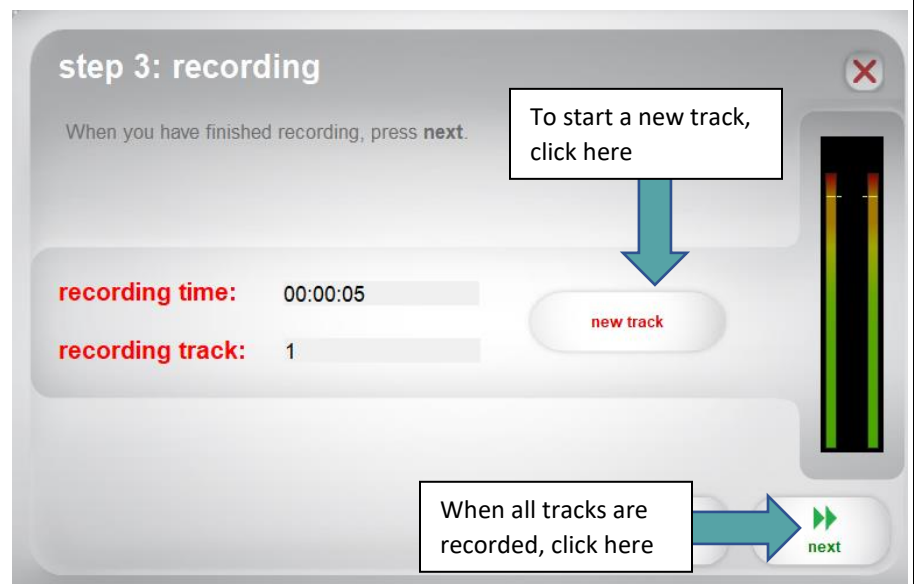
Automatic Track Change

You are now recording. You should be hearing the audio from the device through your computer's speakers or the provided headphones. You should see the audio meters move. If you cannot hear your music, make sure your computer's volume is not muted.



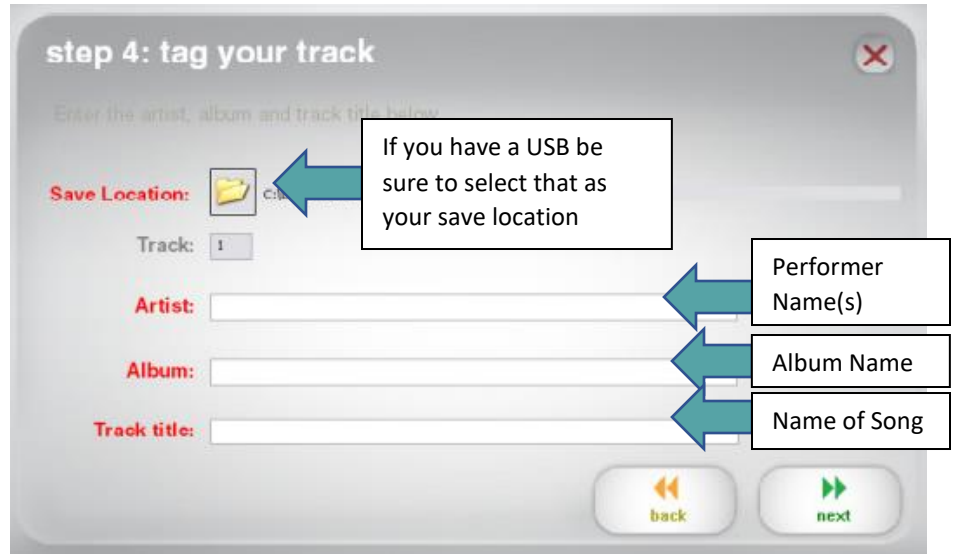
Manual Track Change

If you chose to manually split your recording into tracks, you will see a New Track button. You can use this button to mark the beginning of a new track. When you have finished recording, click Next to proceed to the next step.



Tag Your Track

Once you have finished recording, please enter the Save Location by clicking the folder icon and selecting where you want the software to save your converted files. Also enter Artist, Album and Track titles by clicking and typing into the corresponding fields.



The Track title will be the name of the converted file. The Album and Artist names will be the names of the folders it is saved in.

Note: If you have recorded more than 10 tracks, you can access the information for tracks 11-20 by clicking Next. When you are finished labeling all of your recording, click Next.

Finishing Your Recording

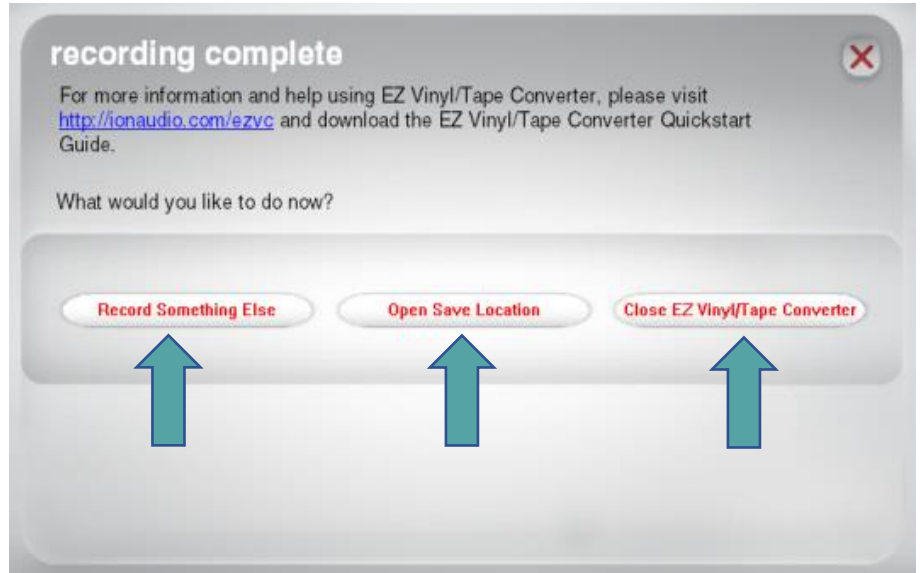
Once the software has saved your recording, you will see the screen on the right.

Click Record Something Else if you would like to record another tape.

Click Open Save Location to open the folder where your recordings are saved.

Click Close EZ Vinyl/Tape Converter if you are done everything

Note: Remember to take your USB or send/save the files to a personal file storage before logging off.



Converting File Types

EZ Vinyl/Tape Converter saves your files as WAVs (.wav), which you can play with most audio software but—because they are 10 times larger than MP3s—they may be too large to use on smartphones, to upload to send by email, etc.

You can convert WAVs to other file formats by using iTunes, Windows Media Player, or other free applications available online.

To convert your files using iTunes:

1. Open iTunes on your computer.
2. In the menu bar, click Edit and select Preferences.
3. In the Preferences window's General tab, click the Import Settings button.
4. Click the Import Using drop-down menu and select the format you want to convert to. (We recommend converting to MP3 since it is supported almost universally by audio playback applications, websites, etc. If you use mostly iTunes or other Apple software or devices, we recommend converting to AAC (.m4a), which has a slightly better sound quality than MP3.)
5. Click OK to close the Import Settings window, and then click OK to close the Preferences window.
6. Locate your WAV files, and then click and drag them over the Library category of the sidebar in iTunes. The files will be added into your iTunes library.
7. In your iTunes library, select the files you want to convert, right-click them, and select Create ____ Version (the format you selected in Step 5). iTunes will create an additional version of those files in your selected format.

Note: Your iTunes library will now show both an entry for each file format. If you wish to save hard drive space, you can delete the extra files from your iTunes library.