



Ma Musique

User Guide

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Version 2.5

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1. Getting Started

Installing Ma Musique

Ma Musique is available on the Mac App Store. After purchase, click **Get** and the app will download and install automatically. You can find it in your Applications folder or via Launchpad.

First Launch

When you open Ma Musique for the first time, the library will be empty. Ma Musique works with music stored anywhere on your Mac — it does not copy or move your files. You remain in full control of where your music lives.

Adding Your Music

To add music to your library:

1. Open **Ma Musique**.
2. Go to **File > Add Music Folder...** (or use the toolbar button).
3. Select the folder that contains your music. Ma Musique will scan it and all its sub-folders for MP3 and FLAC files.
4. You can add multiple root folders — for example, one for your local library and one on an external drive.

Tip: Ma Musique watches your music folders for changes. When you add new files to an existing folder, they will appear in the library automatically.

2. The Interface

Main Window

The main window is split into two panels:

- **Left panel (Library)** — browse your music by artist, album, or folder structure.
- **Right panel (Playlist / Queue)** — the list of songs queued for playback.

The playback toolbar runs along the bottom and provides transport controls, volume, and the progress scrubber.

Now Playing View

Click the album artwork thumbnail in the toolbar to open the **Now Playing** view. This large floating window shows:

- Full-size album artwork (or multiple images from your album folder, cycling every 5 seconds)
- Song title, artist, and album
- A progress scrubber with elapsed and remaining time
- A **Go to Playing** button that scrolls the playlist to the current track

Mini Player

For a more compact experience, open the **Mini Player** from the **Window** menu. It provides essential playback controls in a small, unobtrusive window.

3. Playing Music

Basic Controls

- **Play / Pause** — starts or pauses playback of the current song.
- **Stop** — stops playback and resets the position to the beginning.
- **Previous / Next** — skip to the previous or next song in the queue.
- **Rewind 10 s** — jump back 10 seconds in the current track.
- **Forward 10 s** — jump forward 10 seconds in the current track.

Volume

Use the volume slider in the toolbar to adjust playback volume. Click the speaker icon to **mute** or **unmute**; Ma Musique remembers the previous volume level when you unmute.

Progress Scrubber

Click or drag anywhere on the progress bar to seek to that position in the track.

Shuffle

Click the **Shuffle** button to play songs in a random order. When shuffle is active, Ma Musique picks a random song from the queue after each track ends.

Repeat Last

Click the **Repeat** button to loop the current song indefinitely. Click again to turn it off.

Double-Click to Play

Double-click any song in the playlist or library to start playing it immediately.

4. Managing Your Library

Library Views

Use the view selector at the top of the library panel to switch between:

- **Artist / Album** — a hierarchical tree grouped by artist and then album.
- **Album** — browse by album only, without the artist grouping.
- **Folder** — mirrors your filesystem structure, starting from the root folders you added.

Searching

Type in the **Search** field (top-right of the library panel) to filter by title, artist, or album. Results update as you type.

Album Artwork

Ma Musique automatically detects cover art stored alongside your music files (common image filenames like *cover.jpg*, *folder.jpg*, *front.png*, etc.). If an album folder contains multiple images they will all be displayed in the Now Playing view, cycling every 5 seconds with a smooth fade transition.

Note: Embedded artwork inside MP3/FLAC tags is also supported and will be displayed if no image files are found in the album folder.

Removing Music Folders

To remove a root folder from your library, right-click it in the Folder view and choose **Remove from Library**. This only removes the folder from Ma Musique's index — your files are not deleted.

5. Playlists

Adding Songs to the Queue

There are several ways to add music to the queue:

- **Drag and drop** a song, album, or artist from the library onto the playlist panel.
- **Right-click** a song or selection and choose **Play Next** or **Add to Queue**.
- **Double-click** a song to clear the queue and play it immediately.

Tip: Dragging an entire album inserts all its tracks in album order.

Reordering Songs

Drag songs up or down in the playlist panel to reorder them. Reordering does not interrupt playback.

Play Next

Right-click a song (or selection) in the library and choose **Play Next** to insert it directly after the currently playing track.

Saving a Playlist

1. Build the queue you want to save.
2. Choose **File > Save Playlist...**
3. Pick a name and location. Playlists are saved as plain text files.

Loading a Playlist

1. Choose **File > Open Playlist...**
2. Select a previously saved playlist file. The songs will be added to the queue.

6. Editing Tags

Ma Musique includes a built-in tag editor so you can fix or complete the metadata of your music files without leaving the app.

Opening the Tag Editor

Right-click a song (or a selection of songs) in the library or playlist and choose **Edit Tags...**

Editable Fields

- Title
- Artist

- Album
- Track Number
- Year
- Genre

Batch Editing

Select multiple songs before opening the tag editor to edit them all at once. Fields left blank will not overwrite existing values, so you can update only the *Artist* field for an entire album in one step.

MusicBrainz Lookup

Click **Lookup on MusicBrainz** in the tag editor to search the MusicBrainz database for accurate metadata for the selected track.

7. Equalizer

Ma Musique includes a multi-band parametric equalizer powered by the macOS AVAudioEngine.

Opening the Equalizer

Go to **Window > Equalizer** (or use the toolbar button) to open the equalizer panel.

Using the Equalizer

- Each slider controls the **gain** of a specific frequency band. Drag up to boost, drag down to cut.
- Use the **Global Gain** control to adjust the overall output level without changing the EQ curve.
- Individual bands can be **bypassed** for A/B comparisons.

Tip: To restore a flat response, set all band gains back to 0 dB.

8. Crossfade

Crossfade smoothly blends the end of one track into the beginning of the next, eliminating silence between songs.

Enabling Crossfade

1. Open **Ma Musique > Preferences...**
2. Go to the **Player** tab.
3. Check **Enable Crossfade**.

Adjusting the Duration

Use the **Crossfade Duration** slider to set how many seconds the fade overlap lasts. Shorter values (2–3 s) suit most music; longer values (5–8 s) create a more DJ-style blend.

Fade Out at End

When the playlist reaches its last song, you can optionally have Ma Musique fade out the audio gracefully. Enable this in the **Player** preferences pane.

9. Preferences

Open preferences via **Ma Musique > Preferences...** ( .

General

Configure general application behaviour, such as what happens when you close the main window.

Player

- **Crossfade** — enable/disable and set the crossfade duration.
- **Fade Out** — enable a fade-out at the end of the last track.
- **Auto-Pause** — automatically pause playback on configured system events (e.g. headphone disconnect).

10. Menu Bar & Status Bar

Status Bar Icon

Ma Musique places a small icon in the macOS menu bar. Click it to access quick controls without switching to the main window:

- Play / Pause
- Stop
- Skip Back — go to the previous track
- Skip Ahead — go to the next track

The menu also shows the currently playing song title and artist.

Spectrum Analyzer

A real-time audio spectrum analyzer can be displayed in the status bar, giving a visual representation of the frequency content of the audio as it plays.

11. Tips & Shortcuts

Keyboard Shortcuts

| Action | Shortcut |
|----------------|----------|
| Play / Pause | Space |
| Stop | ⌘ . |
| Next Track | ⌘ → |
| Previous Track | ⌘ ← |
| Rewind 10 s | ⌘ ↓ |
| Forward 10 s | ⌘ ↑ |
| Preferences | ⌘ , |

Getting the Most from Your Library

- Keep your music files well-tagged — Ma Musique's search and browse views rely on this metadata.
- Store album artwork as `cover.jpg` or `folder.jpg` in each album folder for automatic detection.
- Use the **Folder** library view when you want to explore music by its physical location on disk.

Supported File Formats

Ma Musique supports **MP3** and **FLAC** audio files.

Support

If you encounter any issues or have questions, please reach out to Snow Line Software. Visit www.snowlinesoftware.com for support resources.