

# MITPlayer for Mac people using Parallels

The following is oriented for the MacOS user with little Windows experience. MITPlayer documentation files can be read on a Mac using Mac tools: Keynote and Pages. You don't need Microsoft products to read them; just double click on the files.

## Downloading and installing Parallels and Windows

You need to obtain and install Parallels, which you can download from [www.parallels.com](http://www.parallels.com) or other sources that may have special deals – I bought a one-time license on a promotion for less than the parallels.com list price.

You will also need to install Windows on Parallels. If you have a license registration for Windows, you can use that. Other ways to obtain a registration can be found from the following sites; the workaround I use is described below:

[passper.imyfone.com/windows-10/windows-10-product-key-free](http://passper.imyfone.com/windows-10/windows-10-product-key-free)  
[www.tomshardware.com/reviews/get-windows-10-free-or-cheap,5717.html](http://www.tomshardware.com/reviews/get-windows-10-free-or-cheap,5717.html)

Microsoft nags users without registrations to obtain one. However, Windows still seems to run normally with minor exceptions (e.g., your desktop background is always black). Parallels provides an easy way to automatically install Windows without a license:

- After installing Parallels, there will be a window to add a new virtual machine. If you don't see it, click the "+" in the upper right corner of the Control Center to add a new virtual machine.
- Choose Get Windows 10 from Microsoft.
- Choose Download Windows 10 if you have a license key [even though you may not].
- This will begin the process of installing the Windows 10 virtual machine automatically.
- After the install, you will be asked about Coherence or Full Screen Mode. I use the Screen Mode (not Full Screen) so that I can easily drag/drop files to/from MacOS & Windows.
- As it has been fewer than 2 weeks since I installed the Windows 10 virtual machine, I don't know yet when Windows will start asking for a license. [Written July 6 2021 – check back with me if you want a recent update.] Until then, Windows 10 full version is installed and running as a virtual machine.

## Downloading and installing MITPlayer

You are likely reading this from the MITPlayer site [MITPlayer.com](http://MITPlayer.com) where you can download the full zip file containing everything you need to install and run MITPlayer via Windows running in the Parallels virtual machine. As you are likely familiar with downloading from your MacOS's browser (Safari, Firefox, Chrome, etc.), I suggest that you download and unzip the file using MacOS. Then drag the unzipped folder to the Windows window desktop. Note: Windows sometimes uses the term "directory" instead of "folder" – they are the same concept.

Open the folder by double clicking on the icon. On the left you should see a list of folders. Click on the one called "This PC" and then scroll down the next list you see and click on Local Disk (C:). You need to create a folder called "fd" or "MIT" (your choice) here by: type ctrl-shift-N (or use the icon for this on the top left of this Windows directory). This will be your "Main Directory". Also create a folder called Mx (for "music").

On the Windows desktop, now open (double click) the folder you dragged from MacOS containing MITPlayer files. Double click on the file \_README.for.full.zip (use Notepad to stay within Windows or Textedit to read in the familiar MacOS app) and follow the instructions in the file. You have already created the C:\fd or C:\MIT and C:\Mx folders described in the README. Now you can move the MITPlayer files and directories to your Main Directory as per the README instructions.

If you don't see the Mx folder, click on Local Disk (C:) on the left scroll area, then cntl-click (right click) on the Mx folder to open Mx in a new window; then double click on the C:\fd or C:\MIT folder to get back to the list of sample music files to move.

Note that the Mx folder is used as a temporary location for the sample music files. You don't need to use it for anything else.

Once you have moved the MITPlayer files to your Main Directory, and moved the sample music files to Mx, you can start MITPlayer by double clicking its icon.

## How to access music residing within MacOS

It may be confusing for a Mac person regarding where songs/dances should be located. When you load individual songs or a group of songs to the MITPlayer database, you need not move them to the Mx folder (that's just a sample so you can start playing with the MITPlayer quickly). You can point the MITPlayer to their current locations. The same method described below is used for finding either folders of songs or individual songs to add.

- Choose Add a Group of dances.
- The window will display "Location of Music Files" on the left.
- Click on the top disk location and then choose the item that has [\\Mac\Home]. The Windows logical drive may differ depending on the drives you have on your Mac. On my MacBook it is the z: drive.
- You will then see the file structure of your user area on your Mac. You then can choose folders and files for the MITPlayer to use. For example, I have a FLORESCU folder in iTunes that has a folder called Florescu 5 in it containing 17 songs/dances. To navigate to that folder, I choose Music, then iTunes, then iTunes Music, then FLORESCU, then Florescu 5.
- To make this easy, in the Player's setup screen – Options/Setup Screen – set "Initial path for MP3 files" to be the base location of your music; then click the Save settings button.

## How to import iTunes files in AAC format

Apple uses a proprietary format for music downloaded from iTunes and some DVDs also use the AAC format. These files need to be converted to mp3 or m4a format before importing them to MITPlayer. The easiest way is to use the iTunes Export feature to export the files to mp3 or m4a format. Another Mac app that can do this in batches is MediaHuman's AudioConverter, and there are likely many others.

Phil Mason, phma01@gmail.com