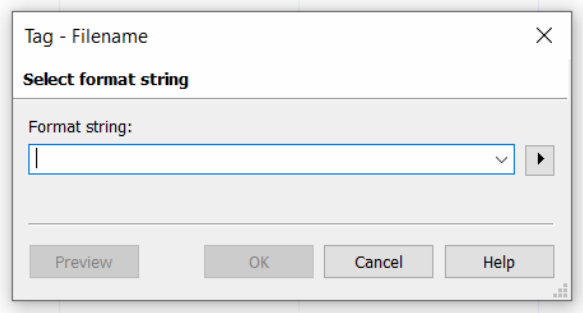
Tag Conversion

Here's a look at Mp3tag's menu bar:

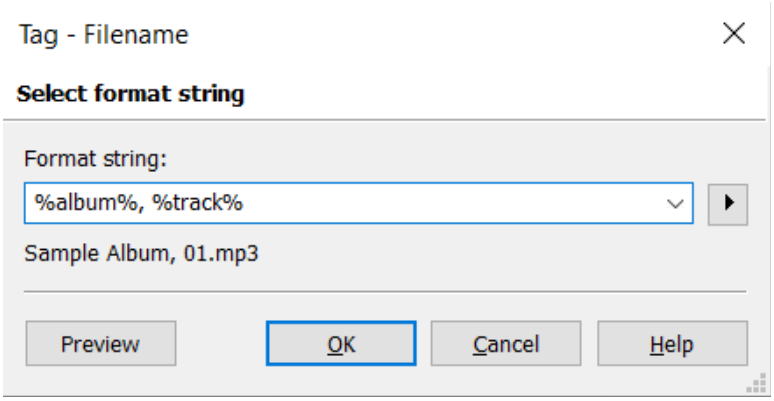
At the top, we have the **File**, **Edit**, **View**, **Convert**, **Actions**, **Tag Sources**, and **Help** menus, as well as a number of colored buttons. Hovering over the colored buttons shows a brief description of what each does. We're going to be focused on the **Convert** menu, which includes options for converting **Tag - Filename**, **Filename - Tag**, **Filename - Filename**, **Text file - Tag**, **Tag - Tag**, as well as the **Auto-numbering Wizard**. These options are also available, in order, as these buttons on the menu bar:

As well as in the context menu, accessed by right-clicking on a song. To convert means to change the information in a tag using a format string. The first option, **Tag - Filename**, will transfer the string of a specified tag to the filename. The menu looks like this:



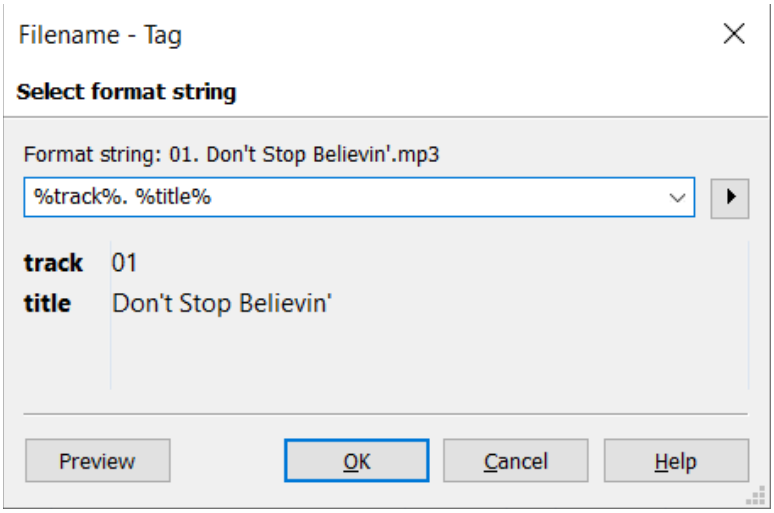
Typing normal text into the box will result in the filename simply being overwritten by the text. But using a placeholder will overwrite the filename with the placeholder's value. For example, **%album%** will change the filename to match the album name. Use the small arrow box on the right to select from a list of placeholders.

Use multiple placeholders to create a detailed description that will transfer to the filename. For instance, the format string **%album%, %track%** will transfer whatever the album name and track number are, with a comma in between them. Here's a visualization:



The second option in the **Convert** menu, **Filename - Tag**, works much the same way, but backwards. Here, we can transfer the filename's data into one or more tags that we specify in the format string.

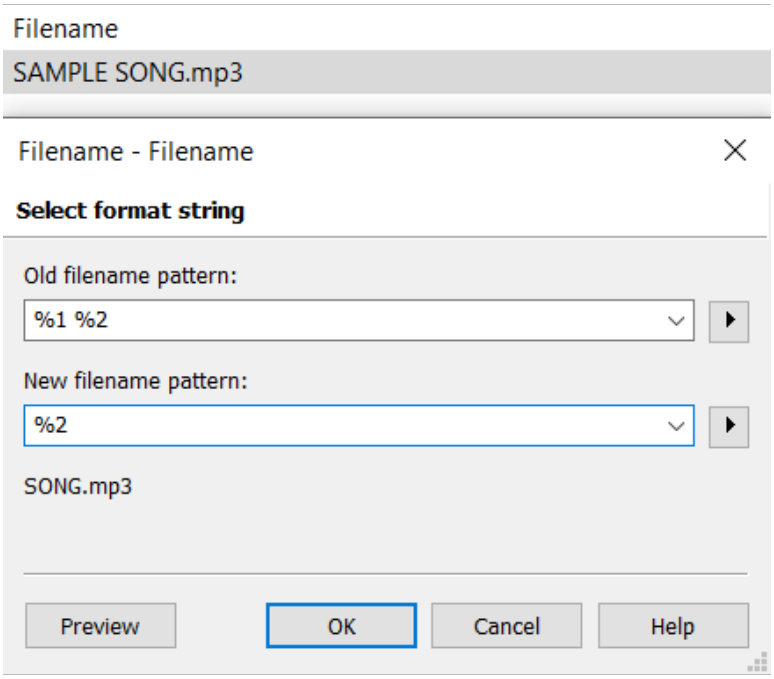
In the example below, the filename of the song is **01. Don't Stop Believin'**. The format string **%track%. %title%** will export **01** to the track tag field and **Don't Stop Believin'** to the title tag field. Note the period and space in between the placeholders. These characters indicate a separation between the two values, or in other words, they show which part of the filename is the track and which part is the title.



The third option is **Filename - Filename**, which allows you to rename the filenames of songs based on parts of the original filename. This converter has two parts: the **Old**

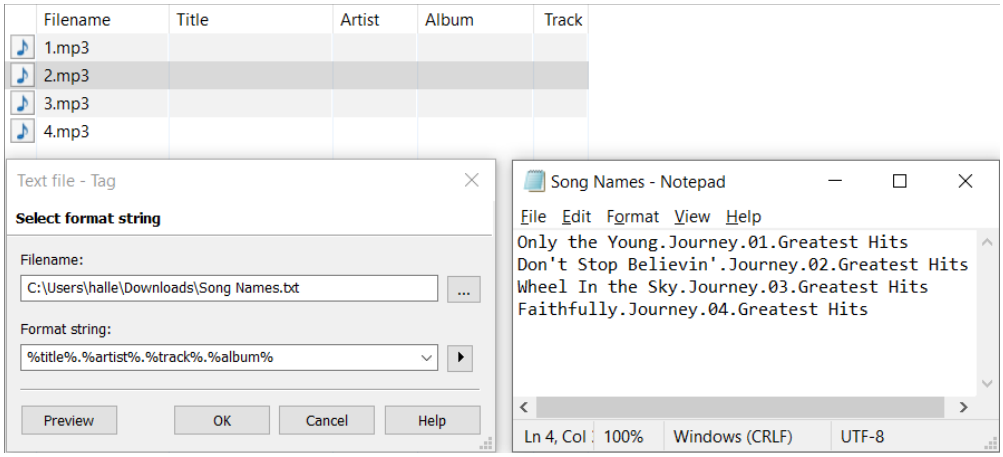
Filename Pattern and **New Filename Pattern**. Use the old filename pattern to split the original filename into a maximum of nine parts, each denoted with **%1** to **%9** placeholders. Like with the previous conversion option, characters like spaces and periods can be used to indicate the separate parts of the filename.

In the example below, the filename SAMPLE SONG and the goal is to replace it with SONG. To do so, input **%1 %2** as the old pattern and **%1** as the new. The old filename sets “SAMPLE” as **%1**, “SONG” as **%2**, and the space indicates where one ends and the other begins.



The fourth option is **Text File - Tag**. It allows you to read the information in a text file and import it as tag information. The text file (which can be .txt, .csv, or .log) should have the tag information for each song on a different line, starting with the first song and going down. This means that the entries in the text file need to be in the same order as the songs, but if you need to match them based on either filename or absolute path, you can use **%_filename_ext%** and **%_path%**. Mp3tag will import the data according to the format string indicated in the second box.

In the example below, the text file follows the same format as it lists the first four songs in an album. First is the title, then the artist, then the track number, then the album. To export this data to the four songs, we will use the format string **%title%.%artist%.%track%.%album%**. Each placeholder is separated by a period, as is each piece of information in the file. It doesn’t matter what the separator is, only that they match.



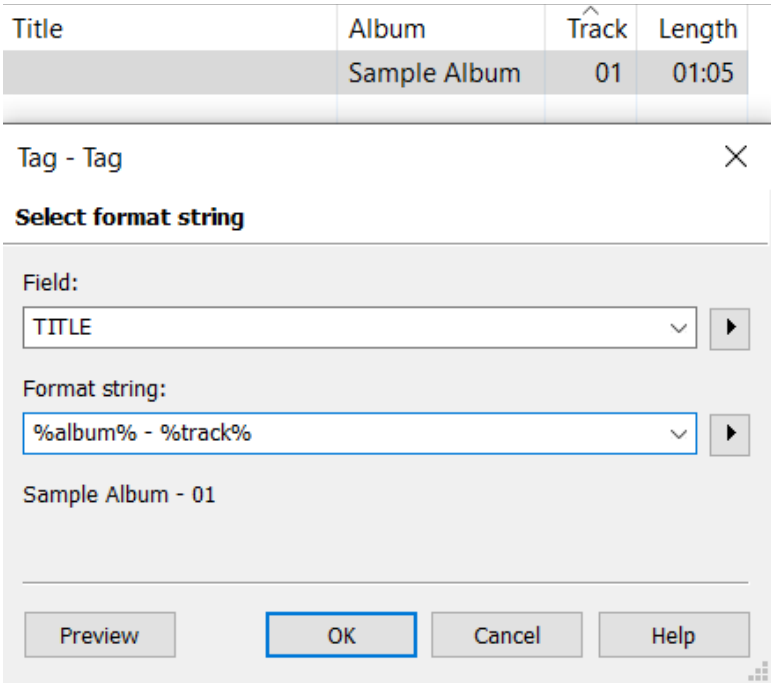
Result:

Filename	Title	Artist	Album	Track
1.mp3	Only the Young	Journey	Greatest Hits	01
2.mp3	Don't Stop Believin'	Journey	Greatest Hits	02
3.mp3	Wheel In the Sky	Journey	Greatest Hits	03
4.mp3	Faithfully	Journey	Greatest Hits	04

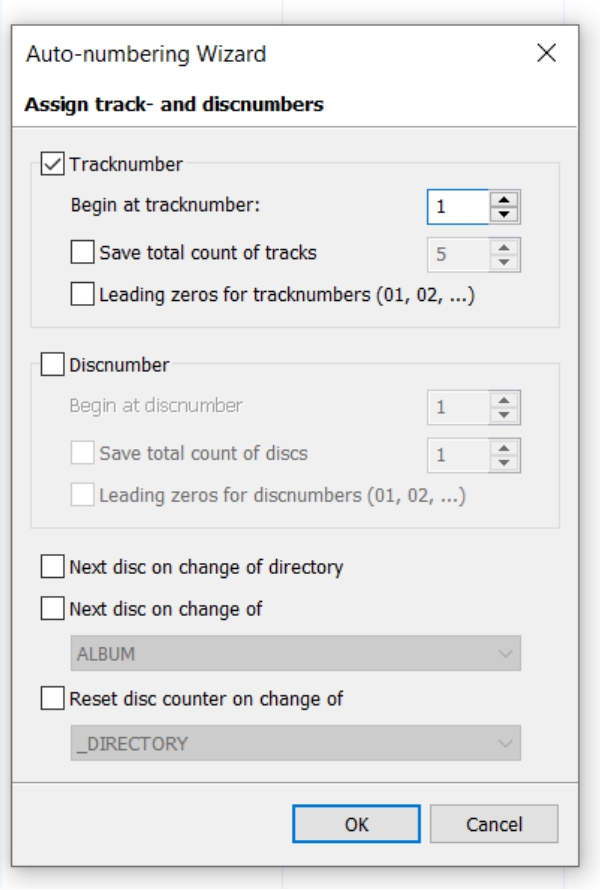
If you want a part of the tag information to be omitted, use **%dummy%**. For example, a format string like **%title%.%artist%.%track%.%dummy%** with **Don’t Stop Believin’.02.Journey.Greatest Hits** will ignore the **Greatest Hits** portion of the string.

The fifth option is **Tag - Tag**. Here, we can alter the value of one tag based on information from another. Most commonly, this option is used to copy data from one field to another. To do so, select the field that you want overwritten in the **Field** input, then write the field that you want to copy from in the format string (you will have to use a placeholder, such **%artist%**).

In the example below, we copy the album and track to the title field, separated by a dash.



Finally, there's the **Auto-numbering Wizard**. The Auto-numbering Wizard is simple to use and one of the most useful tools available in Mp3tag. Simply select as many files as you want, often all of them, and activate the wizard. Once you hit the “OK” button, the program will convert their track number in the order they’re presented on the screen. Here’s what the wizard looks like:

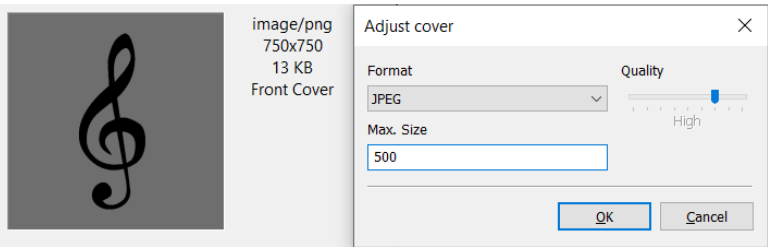


You can indicate what track number you want to begin at by changing the value of the “Begin at tracknumber” field.

Actions

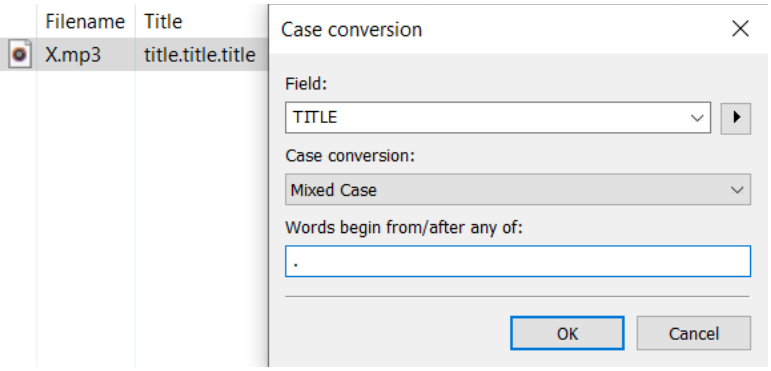
Actions are a grouped set of changes that you can apply to one or more filenames/tags. You can access the **Actions** menu on the top bar, which contains the options for actions groups and quick actions. Action Groups are a group of actions that will all be applied to the selected songs all at once at once. Quick actions allow you to apply one action type to the selected songs, the changes of which will be immediately saved. Below is a list of actions and their usage.

Adjust Cover allows you to change or resize a file's cover art. Choose an image format or keep it the same with "original," specify the quality, and enter a maximum size in pixels. The maximum size must be smaller than the original file's size.



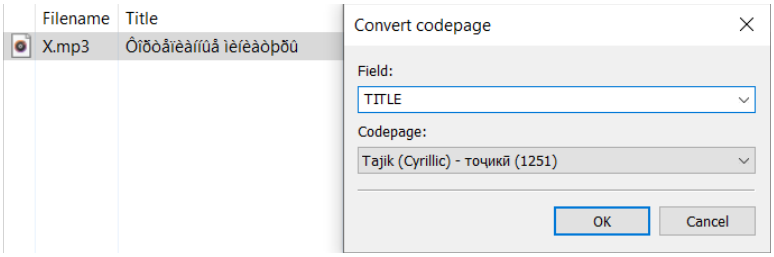
The result is a 500x500 JPEG file.

Case Conversion allows you to change the cases of the text in your selected field. You can change all to lowercase, make the first letter of each word uppercase (and all other lowercase), make the first letter in the entire string uppercase (and all other lowercase), or make all uppercase. Finally, with **Words beginning after any of**, you can indicate the characters that precede the beginning of a new word.



The result is a title of "Title.Title.Title"

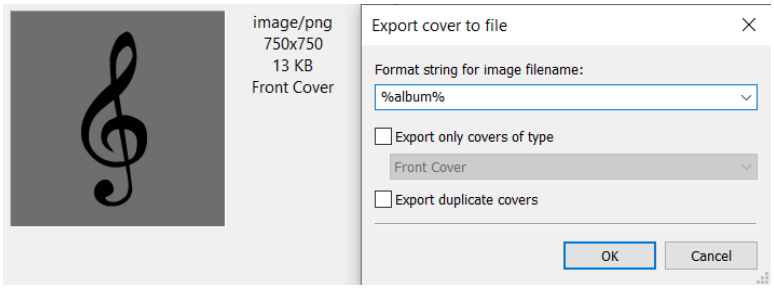
Convert Codepage simply converts the selected field's codepage to Unicode/ISO-8859-1. If your characters are not displaying correctly due to being from a different charset, this will solve the problem. Use the menu to choose the current codepage that needs changed to Unicode.



The original title is in Cyrillic. It's converted to "Фортепианные миниатюры" in Unicode.

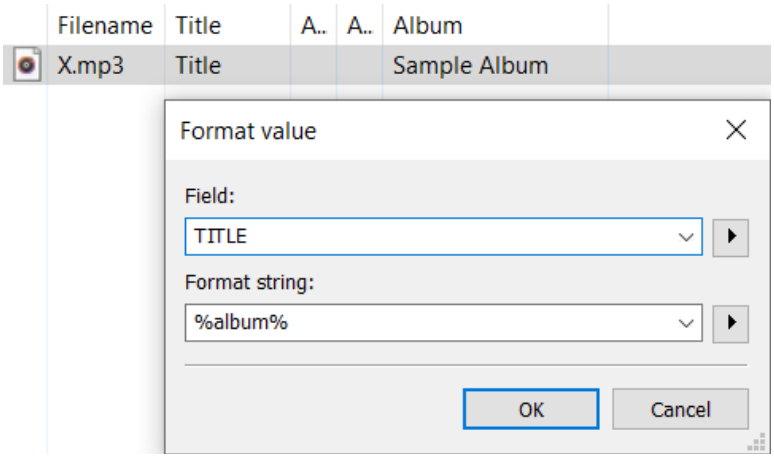
Export exists only to export all files in an action group after all other actions have been performed. It will always execute last.

Export Cover to File will save the cover art as the filename you indicate. Placeholders are allowed. Use **Export only cover of type** to only save those of an indicated type, and **Export duplicate covers** to export identical covers as well. The image will be saved to the same folder as the track is located in. If there is another file of the same name in the destination folder, the original file will be overwritten without a prompt.



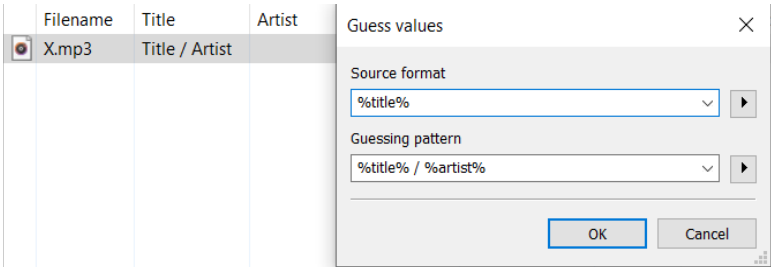
The cover art will be exported with the filename, "Sample Album."

Format Value can alter file fields/filenames based on the content of other fields or the text you provide. It can also copy the content of one field to another, with or without fixed text serving as a template. Format strings and placeholders are allowed.



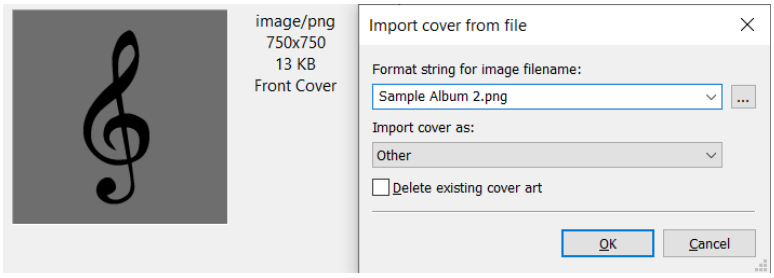
The text of the album field, “Sample Album,” will overwrite the title field.

Guess Values uses a format string to import tag strings based on the guessing pattern you specify. It’s commonly used to split the content of one tag field to a number of others.



“Title” will remain in the title field and “Artist” will move to the artist field. The spaces and slash in between them will be deleted.

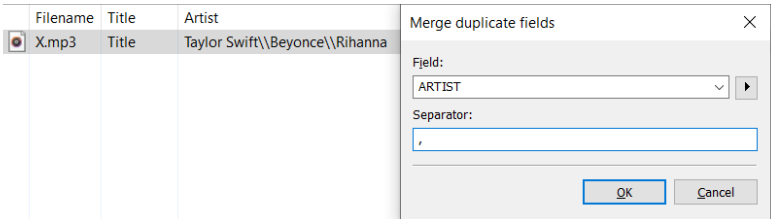
Import Cover from File will import an image by its filename and embed it as cover art. The format string can contain both fixed text and cover strings.



The image named “Sample Album 2” will be taken from the same folder that the file is located in and saved to the song.

Import Text File allows you to import a text file by its filename, like the **Tag - Text File** option does, except that it only works for one field at a time.

Merge Duplicate Fields will combine the content of duplicate fields, such as three different artists, into one field with the content separated how you specify.



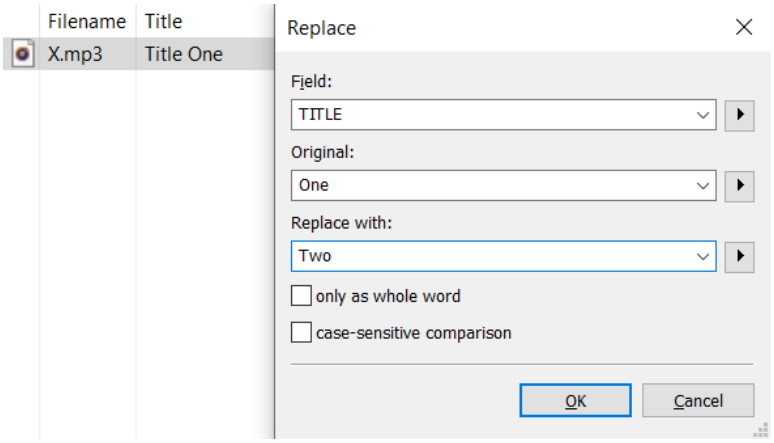
The file currently contains three different artist fields. This action will combine them into one, separated by a comma and a space.

Remove Duplicate Fields simply removes duplicate tag fields and preserves only the first field.

Remove Fields simply allows you to remove specific tag fields from the file. The “PICTURE” field will remove the cover art.

Remove Fields Except removes all tag fields from the file except for the ones you specify. As above, “PICTURE” will preserve the cover art.

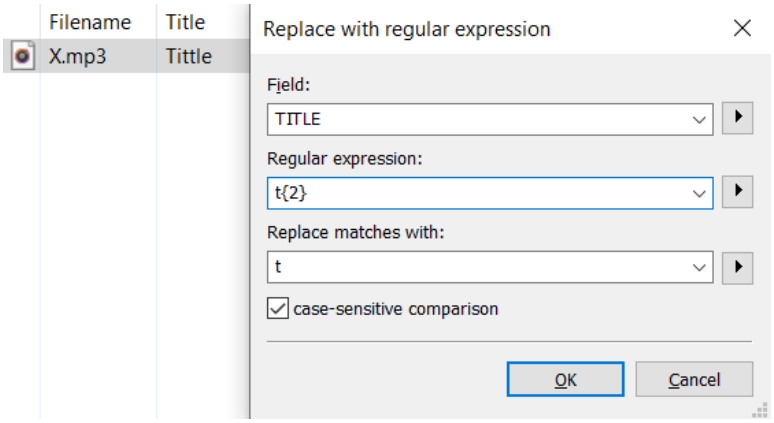
Replace replaces one string with another in the specified field. You can leave the “Replace” input empty to remove the original string. Enable “Only as whole word” to replace only if the word is exactly as entered and isn’t part of another word. Use “Case-sensitive comparison” to only replace strings of identical cases.



The word “One” in the title will be replaced with “Two.”

Replace with Regular Expression will replace strings using regular expressions. Use “Case-sensitive comparison” to only replace strings of identical cases. Input the regular

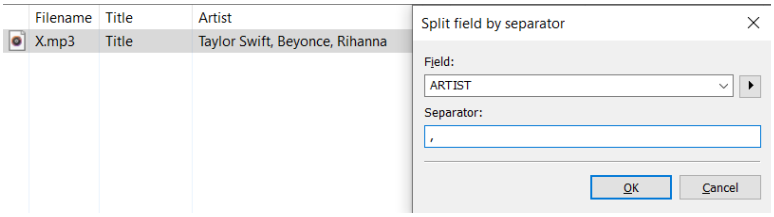
expression in the “Regular Expression” field and what you want the matched pattern to be replaced with in the “Replace Matches with” field. See the “Regular Expressions” section at the top of this document for more information.



The regular expression searches for instances in which the letter “t” is repeated twice, so the double “t” typo in the title field is replaced with only a single “t.”

Set Cover Properties allows you to change the “Cover Type” and “Cover Description” of a piece of covert art. Set the type to <keep> to preserve it and leave the description field blank to remove it. You can apply this action to all covers of the selected files or to only covers of a particular type.

Split Field by Separator will split one tag field into multiple with the given separator in between them.



The artist field currently contains a string reading, “Taylor Swift, Beyonce, Rihanna.” It will be split into three separate artist fields based on the comma and space separating the words.