

The “Internet Archive Playlist Generator”

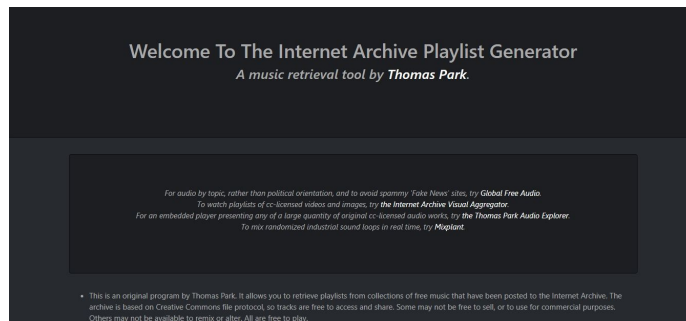
By Thomas Park

P. Harriman, DJ: *“What a good idea to make playlists of archive.org netlabels. I’m constantly searching through the netlabels as I showcase appropriate and good material I find. This helps me to find things more easily.”*

J. Robinson, DJ: *“Listening now – this is very cool – thank you so much! I’d be able to do the next ten years worth of shows just with this if I was lazy.”*

In late summer of 2018, Thomas Park joined Launchcode in an effort to learn programming. Thomas wanted to use python code to create playlists of material stored at The Internet Archive. Because the archive’s material is free and cc-licensed, no rights would be violated by facilitating streaming of the material.

Thomas created the [“Internet Archive Playlist Generator”](#). With this free web application, a user can indicate what collection to search at the archive, and one or two keywords to use as search terms. Users can generate .m3u playlists of .mp3 files.



This simple piece of python code, less than 20kb in size, is very powerful. A user can, for example, create a playlist of hundreds of tracks from a single netlabel. The can search for audio with the keywords “morse code”. Or “bagpipes”.

A player page allows users to shuffle through individual tracks in their playlist(s), downloading specific items, or making note of items to exclude.

What are some advantages of this program? For music enthusiasts and djs, there may be a need for access to lots of free files with a particular theme or genre. A dj wants to do a show, say, about instrumental jazz. Or bluegrass. Or, maybe, they just want a really large playlist for their station, to get listeners to tune in between shows. The IAPG quickly creates playlists that make all of these things possible.

A free working copy of “The Internet Archive Playlist Generator” is available now:

<http://mystified131.pythonanywhere.com/>