



r/DigitalAudioPlayer



Search...



Create



r/DigitalAudioPlayer • 6 mo. ago

jeanrenefefe

## How to upgrade a Creative Zen Micro to 128gb (with and without a VM)

After a few frustrating weeks of trying to upgrade my Creative Zen Micro to 128gb, I finally succeeded on upgrading it. Here is a step by step.

### With a Virtual Machine

Given that the software part can get very frustrating, I suggest that you first focus on creating a working environment based on your stock mp3 player. This will limit the number of things that can go wrong.

This was tested on a Windows 11 machine (called Host from now on).

Download [Virtualbox](#).

Use your own Windows XP SP2 image or find one (google: archive + WinXPProSP2ENG).

Download the Windows Media Player 10 updater from [here](#)

Download the Creative Zen Micro drivers and upgraders from [here](#)

Install Virtualbox.

Install Windows XP on Virtualbox - this can be a big step if you don't have much experience in this field, but there are plenty of tutorials on how to do it - check the references below.

Now that you have your Windows XP VM (called Guest from now on) up and running, go to the Devices tab on the top of your screen and click on "Insert guest additions CD...".

This will insert a virtual CD containing some Virtualbox drivers and you'll get a pop up on your Guest machine. Install them and reboot your machine.

Turn off your Guest machine.

Connect the Zen Micro to your Host machine. Your Host machine should recognize the player with no trouble.

In Virtualbox, click on your VM machine and go to settings > USB > USB2.0 > click on the 'plus' sign and add your device there. The name should be "Creative...".

Now, in the same settings menu, go to the tab "shared folders" and click on "add". Now, choose the folder you want to share between the Host and the Guest machines. Give it a name and a mount point. I picked "sharewithxp" for all the fields, including the name of the directory on Host. Check 'auto-mount' and 'make permanent' (if it exists).

On your Host machine, copy the files MP10Setup.exe, ZenMicroPDE\_PCFW\_LB\_1\_11\_01.exe and JB3MV2\_PCWDRV\_US\_2\_01\_00.EXE to the shared directory you just created. Also copy MP10Setup.exe.

Turn on your Guest machine and go to "My Computer".

You should see your shared folder in there.

Copy all the files from there to your Guest's desktop.



r/DigitalAudioPlayer



Create



didn't work without WMP10.

Install JB3MV2\_PCWDRV\_US\_2\_01\_00.EXE - these are the drivers for the Zen Micro.

Disconnect your Zen Micro from your computer.

Connect it again.

Go to devices > usb on the top menu and make sure your device is selected.

Execute ZenMicroPDE\_PCFW\_LB\_1\_11\_01.exe

If everything went according to plan you should now see an "Upgrade" button.

If you see said button - congratulations because this was the most painful part of the process. I realized that when the device is correctly loaded, the executable won't open right away - It takes a few seconds. If the device wasn't fully recognized, you'll see a message saying "Your player is not connected, please connect your player".

(If you got the dreadful second message and no "upgrade" button, try to reboot your Guest machine.

Disconnect and connect your player again. Make sure it appears on the devices menu.)

Now that you have a working environment, let's move to the fun part.

Format your micro sd card (fat32 if I'm not mistaken) - I used a Sandisk Extreme 128gb (the golden ones) and it worked fine.

Insert the micro sd on your CF-to-SD [adapter](#). I got the the only adapter I could find (red one).

Disassemble your Zen Micro - there are tutorials and videos around that show you how to do it better than I possible could - check the references below.

Remove the CF card from the mp3 player and insert the adapter.

Pay attention to the position of the old CF card. CF cards don't have a big distinguishable difference on one side like sd cards do. It's really easy to get mistaken and connect it on the wrong side. The only differences are the slots/openings on both sides of the CF card/adapter - one is larger than the other. When the adapter is connected and in place, its label should be visible (pointing upwards). Take a picture of the original CF card if needed or check the video in the references below.

Assemble everything back but do not insert the battery right away.

Toggle the power button to the left and hold it that position. Insert the battery.

You should now be in recovery mode.

Navigate to "format all" and click ok.

Navigate to "reboot" and click ok.

Connect your player to the computer and, in the Guest machine, make sure it is selected on the devices > usb menu.

Open ZenMicroPDE\_PCFW\_LB\_1\_11\_01.exe

If everything went according to plan, the upgrade button should now be visible.

Click.

Wait.