How To Easily Adjust Song Pitch/Speed with Foobar 2000

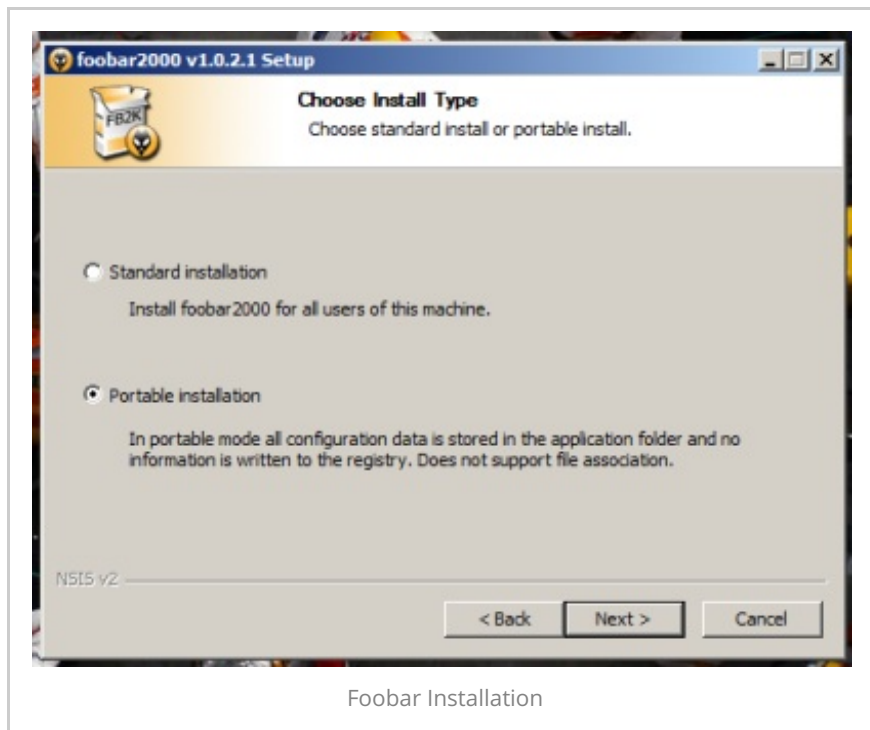anotherwindowsblog.com/2010/04/how-to-easily-adjust-song-pitchspeed.html

By: Simon   April 14, 2010

I've seen many people asked how can they easily change the speed/pitch for a song to either speed it up or slow it down (screwed up!). While a lot of different people threw out some pretty good suggestions, a lot of them consisted of you buying expensive third-party software or installing trial-ware software which would expire after so many days. I'm no fan of music editing (only time I need to to do so is to make ringtones for my iPhone) but I found a easy way to adjust the song pitch and speed with the combination of Foobar 2000 and a simple plug-in. I assure you that this simple procedure will only take no more than a couple of minutes and at the end of this tutorial, you'll be able to easily change the pitch and speed of your music like a pro!

1. First you need to download and install Foobar 2000, which is a music player similar to Windows Media Player and Winamp. What I always tell people about Foobar 2000 is that it can either be the most simplistic music player you've ever used or it can also be the most complicated one as well. The reason is due to Foobar 2000's support for third party plug-ins. You can choose to install Foobar 2000 as a portable application. That way, if you are not satisfied with my method shown here, simply throw away the Foobar 2000 folder and forget about it.
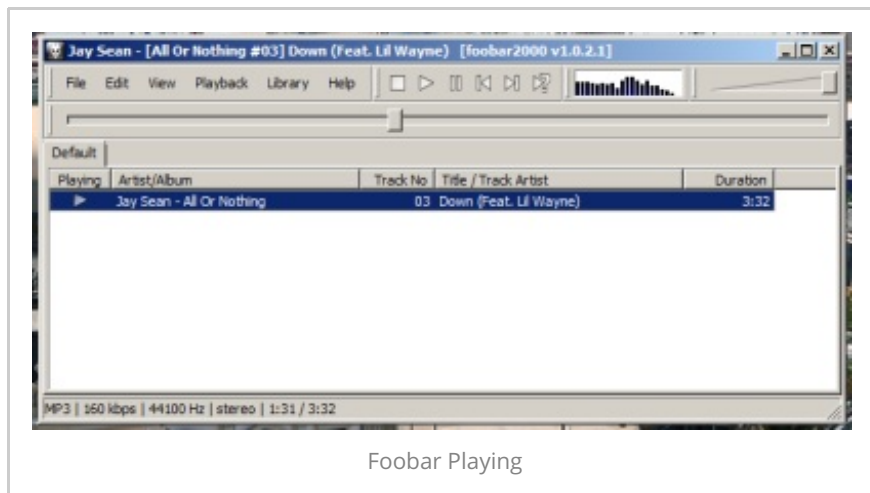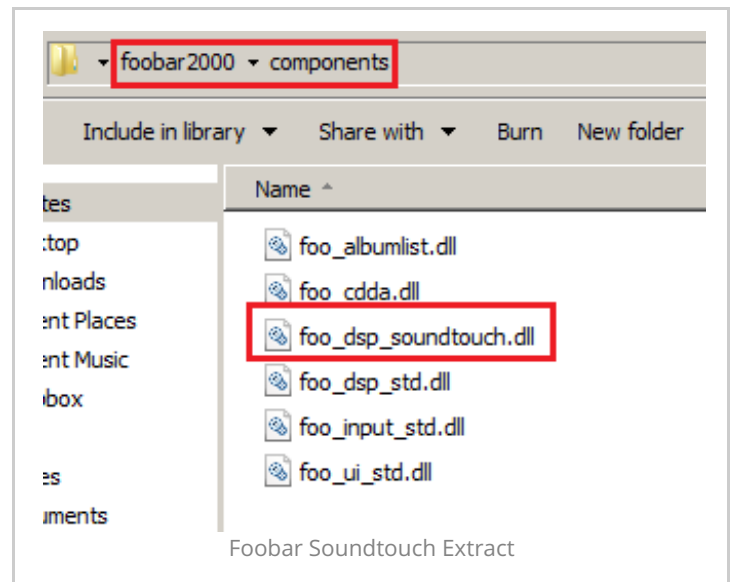

Foobar Installation

2. Next, we'll need to download the Foobar 2000 Soundtouch plug-in. This plug-in is what gives us the ability to adjust the song within the music player.

A recent commenter showed us an even easier way to install the plug-in. Simply head over to Library –> Configure –> Install –> Soundtouch zip file –> Restart. This is easier as you don't have

to even unzip the Soundtouch plug-in file itself as Foobar will do it for you automatically. If you want to install Soundtouch the manual way, continue reading. If not, skip to Step 4.
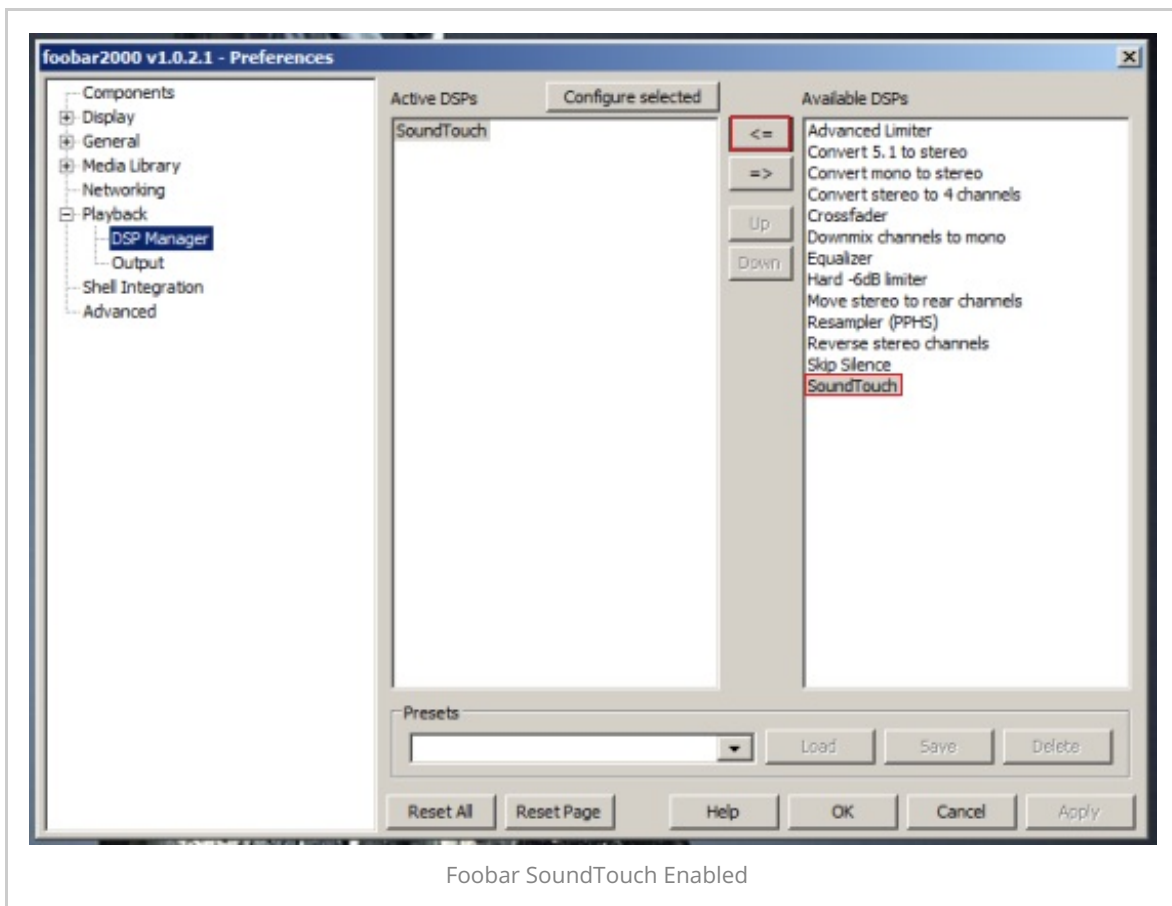3. Now we are going to install the Soundtouch plug-in. Head into your Foobar 2000 directory and open the Components folder. You should see a couple of .dll files in here. What you want to do is extract the Soundtouch plug-in into this folder. Therefore, simply unzip the file and drag it over to this folder.

4. Now that we have the plug-in installed, we can now configure it for use within Foobar 2000. So, start up the music player. Drag a song into Foobar 2000 and play it.

Foobar Soundtouch Extract
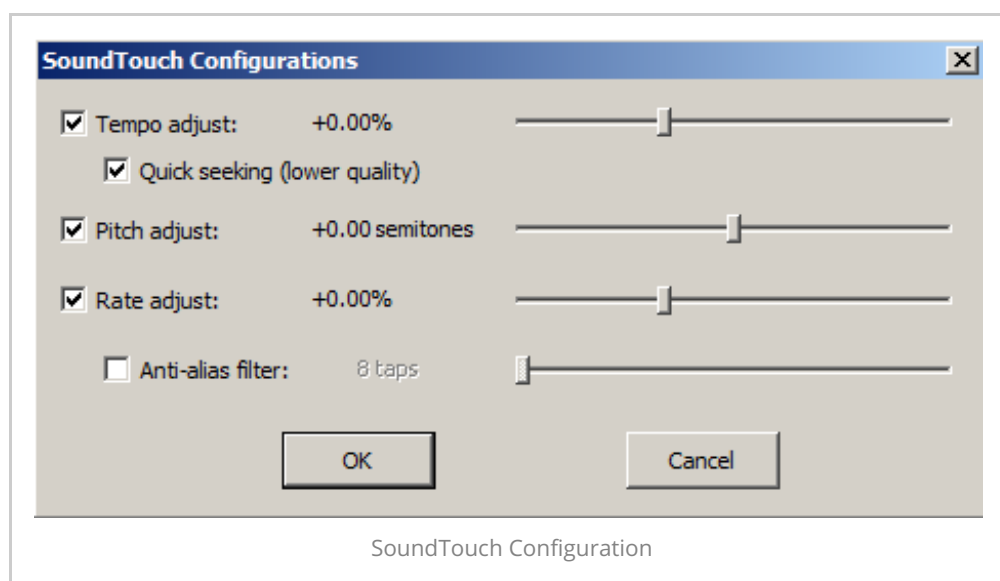

Foobar Playing

Now, head over to File –> Preferences –> Playback –> DSP Manager

Under the Available DSP section, you should see a bunch of plug-in options. Find SoundTouch, click on it and then hit the <= button at the top.

Foobar SoundTouch Enabled

5. We can now adjust our song pitch and tempo! Hit the Configure Selected button at the top and you'll see the controls for SoundTouch. Enable the options by check-marking it and then simply adjust the sliders and the changes will be in real-time (assuming your song is still playing)!

SoundTouch Configuration

The bad news is that there isn't a keyboard shortcut to easily get back to the SoundTouch controls. Every time you want to readjust your song or reset the controls to default, you'll have to navigate back to it by way of File –> Preferences, etc, etc.

In the End...

As always, the method shown here may not be the best or the most technical but from all the times I have recommended it to others, all have been satisfied. It takes no longer than five minutes to set up, is lightweight, doesn't install other bloatware into your computer, and best of all, it is completely free and have no expiration licenses! However, if you have a even better and easier method to adjust song pitch and tempo, please do share!