User Guide

PCDJ Karaoke Filename Fixer

Version 1.0
(Windows 10 Compatible)

Provided by

LHF Consulting
# Table of Contents

Table of Contents ...................................................................................................................... 2  
System Requirements ............................................................................................................... 3  
Installing the PCDJ Karaoke Filename Fixer application files .................................................... 3  
What PCDJ Karaoke Filename Fixer Does ................................................................................ 4  
Step-by-Step Instructions .......................................................................................................... 5  
   Step 1..................................................................................................................................... 5  
   Step 2..................................................................................................................................... 6  
   Step 3..................................................................................................................................... 7  
   Step 4..................................................................................................................................... 7  
   Step 5..................................................................................................................................... 7  
   Step 6................................................................................................................................... 10  
   Step 7................................................................................................................................... 10  
Last Step................................................................................................................................... 11  
Appendix A: Using the “Filter The List” Tools .......................................................................... 12  
   Introduction .......................................................................................................................... 12  
   The Filter Box....................................................................................................................... 12  
   The Buttons.......................................................................................................................... 12  
   Defining Filter Patterns....................................................................................................... 13  
Appendix B: Using the Edit/Search & Replace Tools .............................................................. 16  
   Introduction .......................................................................................................................... 16  
   Using Search & Replace ...................................................................................................... 16  
   Targeted Search & Replace................................................................................................. 17  
   Replace First Space With Brackets...................................................................................... 18
System Requirements

This application is designed to be run on a computer with a Windows 10 operating system. Installation of this program includes the installation of MS Access 2010 runtime, which is required for the application to run. NOTE: Users will need to use Windows Update to make sure all updates and patches are installed for MS Access 2010 runtime after it has been installed.

Installing the PCDJ Karaoke Filename Fixer application files

1. Copy the ZIP folder into a temporary folder in your Documents folder.
2. Extract the ZIP folder. This will create subfolders as well as unzipping the files.
3. Double-click on “Setup.exe”. Follow the screen prompts to complete installation of PCDJ Karaoke Filename Fixer (“KFNF”).
What PCDJ Karaoke Filename Fixer Does

In brief, the purpose of this utility is to allow you to take all of your karaoke files (with extensions of .cdg + .mp3 or .cdg + .wav or .zip) and write them all to a single destination folder so they all use the exact same naming convention.

Most KJs get their songs from many sources, and often those different sources use different naming conventions for their files. Some have the Artist name first, some have the Song Title first, some have the Disc and/or Track number first, some may even be missing some information. And then you’re also dealing with hyphens, or hyphens with spaces, or underscore characters in between the Artist/Title/Track information. It can be a nightmare to get it all into KJ software so that it displays properly and is easily searchable. It was that way for me when I got my hands on a hard drive with over 45,000 songs on it, from every source imaginable, and completely unorganized. After loading these files into my KJ software, there was simply no way to get it all to display properly. I spent hours of frustration trying to match up file names with naming conventions, and finally gave up after realizing it would be weeks before I got through all 45,000 songs. I needed some way to rearrange all the file names so they once in the KJ software they all could be loaded using one naming convention. Thus PCDJ Karaoke Filename Fixer, a.k.a. "KFNF" was created.

After using this utility, when you load your songs into your karaoke software (such as PCDJ Karaoki), you can select one naming convention to interpret the file names, and with a single stroke have all of your karaoke files display perfectly in the software. And because KFNF makes new copies of your songs when it re-writes them, there is no risk to your original files.
Step-by-Step Instructions

Note: for simplicity, PCDJ Karaoke Filename Fixer will be referred to as “KFNF” in the documentation.

Step 1

If you haven’t already, launch KFNF by double-clicking the shortcut on your desktop. You should see the Main Menu as shown below.

The first step is identifying the folder that contains your karaoke files. Don’t worry if your folder contains subfolders, or even sub-subfolders, KFNF will work its way through them all to locate all of your files.

Click on “Change” and use the browser to identify the folder containing your karaoke files.
Click “OK” and you should see the path displayed in the Main Menu.

**Step 2**

Simply click “Process Folder” and KFN will work its way through the folder you identified and any subfolders within it to create a list of all your karaoke files.

Once the process is completed, you can click “View File List” to see the list of files.
**Step 3**

If one or more of your karaoke files are in the form of a ZIP file, click “Check Zip Files” to have KFNF look into each of the Zip files and verify that each contains karaoke files. If KFNF finds a Zip file that is corrupted, or contains something other than proper karaoke files, the listing for that Zip file will be removed from the main file list.

**Note:** If KFNF does find any “bad” Zip files, you can click “View Removed Files” to see what they were.

**Step 4**

When you click this button KFNF will examine each and every file name in the list and do its best to parse out the component “tags” of Artist, Title, Disc ID, and Track ID. KFNF will not be trying to figure out which is which, it will only be trying to break the file name into component parts.

**Step 5**

As mentioned before, different sources use different naming conventions, and can have different numbers of tags in their file names. Step 5 is broken into individual parts which allow you to view only those file names with the same number of tags, from the smallest number to the largest. KFNF will first try to create a sublist of file names with just one tag. If it succeeds, the first button you press in Step 5 will be the one labelled “1 Tag”.

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**User Manual**

PCDJ Karaoke Filename Fixer v1.0 User Guide

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PCDJKaraokeFilenameFixer_Readme_v1_DRAFT.docx Page 7 of 19 provided by LHF Consulting
Note: If there are no listings with just one tag, KFNF will display a “Completed” label underneath the button, and then move on to try to create a list of file names with two tags. It will continue until it can find the first sublist of names to process.

Here’s a screenshot of a situation where KFNF didn’t find any 1-tag or 2-tag filenames, so those two buttons both display “Completed” underneath them:

Skip any buttons that show “Completed”. In the screenshot above, you would click the “3 Tag” button.

The next page shows the editing screen.
This is the meat and potatoes of the utility. The upper half of the window, from left to right, you see displayed:

- the path where each file is located,
- the filename tags as they were identified by KFNF in Step 4,
- a checkbox where you can click to tell KFNF to ignore that individual file (if a file shows up in the list that is not actually a karaoke file), and
- a “Tag Pattern” field where can type in each listing’s Tag Pattern.

The lower half of the window contains three sets of tools that allow you to set filters on the file list, edit the filenames to correct any issues, and then assign the Tag Patterns. In setting the filters, the goal is to wind up with a list displayed in the upper half where every file in the list has the same Tag Pattern. Once you have that, you can type that Tag Pattern once into the field circled in red in the screenshot above, then with one click “plug” (i.e. fill) the Tag Patterns for all the displayed files.

Briefly, the steps to follow are:

1. Use the “Filter The List” tools until all of the files shown on the screen follow the same Tag Pattern (for instructions on using the filters, see Appendix A);
2. Use the “Edit/Search & Replace” to correct any issues in the list of files, such as misspellings and/or missing or improperly placed tag brackets. (For instructions on using the Edit/Search & Replace tools, see Appendix B);

3. Using the 1-letter codes (shown next to the red arrow above) for the tag types, type the Tag Pattern into the “Tag Pattern” field that is circled in red in the previous screenshot. In the screenshot, the Tag Pattern would be “AT” (to indicate the pattern is [Artist]-[Title]).

4. Click “Plug All Files In Filtered Set”. This will fill all of the “Tag Pattern” fields at the right side of each listing with whatever Tag Pattern you typed.

5. Click “Refresh” (in the “Filter The List” section). This clear the filter area back to only showing [TagPattern]=”” and not Exclude, which just means the screen will remove the listings you have input tags for and only display listings that you still haven’t dealt with.

6. If any files are still displaying in the upper half of the window, go back and repeat 1 – 5.

If after doing step 5 you see no files listed, it means you’ve input Tag Patterns for all the files in this sublist, and you can click “Done Processing” to move on to the next higher number of tags. In this case, it would be “3 Tags”. (Note: if you want to close this window before you’re finished identifying all the tags, simply click “Close For Now” instead. You can come back at any time and continue working.)

Continue this process until you have “Completed” showing beneath all the buttons for Step 5. When this happens, KFNF will let you know you’ve finished this step by showing this label underneath the buttons:

---

**Step 6**

Click “Create New Filename Table” and in a second or two it will complete.

**Step 7**

In the field labelled “Desired Tag Pattern”, type the Tag Pattern you want to use for the final version of all your files. *(Hint: Use a pattern that works easily with whatever KJ software you use.)* Then click “Build New Filenames”. Once this completes, you can click “View New Filenames” to see what your new karaoke files will be called. In the screenshot below, the pattern “ATD” was used ([Artist]-[Title]-[Disc ID]). This pattern happens to work beautifully with PCDJ Karaoki, by the way.
**Last Step**

Click the “Change” button in this area to browse and select a folder where all your newly-renamed karaoke files will be placed. **IMPORTANT!!** You will want this to be a NEW FOLDER that is EMPTY. Absolutely do **not** use the same folder your source files are in.

Once you’ve selected the folder to put the renamed files in, click “Write New Filenames to Destination Folder.” Depending on how many files need to be written, this could take a while. Be patient. If you wish you can open Windows Explorer and view the destination folder and see the number of files grow as they are written. KFNF will have a message pop up to notify you when all the files have been written.

That’s it! You can load the new files into your KJ software and use just one naming convention to have them list properly in the KJ software display window.
Appendix A: Using the “Filter The List” Tools

Introduction

The goal of the tools in this section is to enable you to wind up with a list of song filenames that all follow the same Tag Pattern. If you can do that, you will be able to assign their Tag Patterns all at once.

From experience through the development and beta testing of KFNF, there are two most likely successful strategies for filtering your song list so all the files displayed have filenames with the same Tag Pattern. The two strategies are:

1. Filtering by Path (i.e. a particular folder); or
2. Filtering by Filename (many song providers have specific letter combinations for the Disc ID, filtering for these will show you all the files you've downloaded from that provider, regardless of the folder they're in)

The Filter Box

Here is a screenshot of the “Filter The List” Tool Set:

The “Filter” box shows the actual text of the filter being applied. The default is what you see above, and is what shows in the Filter box when you first open any of the Tag buttons in Step 5. It basically is saying “only display listings where the Tag Pattern is empty (i.e. I haven't filled it in yet) and I haven't already marked the listing to Exclude it (by checking the ‘Exclude' box for that listing).”

The default string “[tagpattern]="" AND Not Exclude” should always be at the beginning of your Filter, otherwise you will be displaying listings you've already processed.

The Buttons

Apply Filter: this executes whatever filter is in the Filter box over the list.
**Turn Off Filter:** this completely turns off all filtering and allows you to see all the files in the list, whether they have a Tag Pattern or not.

**Refresh:** this resets the Filter box back to the default, removing from the display any listings whose Tag Patterns you’ve input, and only shows the listings with empty Tag Patterns.

**Insert: Filename = [NewFName] LIKE “”**:: This adds text to the Filter box to filter for a pattern in the “Parsed Filename” field of the list. **NOTE:** You still have to define the pattern to look for. (see next section)

**Insert: Path = [FPath] LIKE “”**:: This adds text to the Filter box to filter for a pattern in the “Path” field of the list. **NOTE:** You still have to define the pattern to look for. (see next section)

**Insert: To filter on selected Folder above:** This adds text to the Filter box to filter for the exact folder for whichever file you have selected in the list. You can select any listing in the list, then click this button and it will filter the list so all you see are the files in the same folder as the one you selected.

**Defining Filter Patterns**

Figuring out the best way to define a filter pattern is as much art as science. There are a few simple rules to follow, but after that it is trying to find a pattern that all the files you want will match, and all the files you don’t want won’t match.

The best way to explain is by example. Consider this short list:

![Filter Example Image](image)

A red line has been added so you can more easily see that there are two folders. One folder has Beatles songs with the Tag Pattern “AT”. The other folder has CCR songs with the Tag Pattern “TA”. These folders might have hundreds of listings in each, so you would really like to filter so all you see is files with one of the two Tag Patterns.

(Note: In actuality you could filter on the file folder using “Insert: To filter on selected Folder above”, but this makes a nice sample for illustrating filter patterns, so we’ll continue.)

Let’s say you want to filter for all the filenames that start with “[Beatles]”. Here’s what the filter string would be:

```
[tagpattern]="" AND Not Exclude AND [NewFName] LIKE "?Beatles\"
```
So the actual pattern is “?Beatles]”. Here’s the breakdown:

First character: “?”
There is only one character you can’t use when defining a pattern, and it happens to be the left bracket character. So instead you use “?” which means any single character or number.

Next characters: “Beatles]”
This is easy enough, it’s what you’re looking to match, minus the left bracket.

Last character: “*”
The asterisk is a wildcard meaning any number of characters and/or numbers. This is your way of saying you don’t care what comes after the pattern you’ve defined.

So in plain language what you asking is for KFNF to:

“Show all files in the list where the Parsed Filename starts with one single character or number, then is followed by the exact characters “Beatles]”, then can be followed by anything or nothing.”

But let’s say you decide you’d rather define the pattern for CCR rather than the Beatles. How would that look?

Like this:

[tagpattern]="" AND Not Exclude AND [NewFName] LIKE "*CCR]"

Now the asterisk is in front, because you don’t care how the filename starts, you care about how it ends. There is no asterisk at the end because you only want the listings that have nothing after the “CCR]”.

So in plain language this statement would be asking:

“Show all files in the list where the Parsed Filename starts with any number of characters and/or numbers, and ends with the exact characters “CCR]”.

Here’s another example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag</th>
<th>Filename Location</th>
<th>Filename Elements</th>
<th>Enable</th>
<th>Big Pattern</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C\Users[User Name]\Documents\My Karaoke Files\Pop Hits Monthly September 2009</td>
<td>PHM0909-01(Chello)(Champagne)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C\Users[User Name]\Documents\My Karaoke Files\Pop Hits Monthly September 2009</td>
<td>PHM0909-01(Hutchinson, Eric)(Ok, It’s Alright With Me)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C\Users[User Name]\Documents\My Karaoke Files\Pop Hits Monthly September 2009</td>
<td>PHM0909-01(Kings Of Leon)(Do It)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C\Users[User Name]\Documents\My Karaoke Files\Pop Hits Monthly September 2009</td>
<td>PHM0909-01(Tomlinson, Trent)(Everyday, That’s What I Feel Like)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C\Users[User Name]\Documents\My Karaoke Files\Pop Hits Monthly September 2009</td>
<td>PNM0909-01(Wilson, Gretchen)(If I Could Do It All Again)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C\Users[User Name]\Documents\My Karaoke Files\Pop Hits Monthly September 2009</td>
<td>PNM0909-01(Wilson, Gretchen)(It’s A Boy)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C\Users[User Name]\Documents\My Karaoke Files\Pop Hits Monthly September 2009</td>
<td>PNM0909-01(Fitz &amp; The Tantrums)(Gold)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C\Users[User Name]\Documents\My Karaoke Files\Pop Hits Monthly September 2009</td>
<td>PNM0909-01(Spin, Michael &amp; Sara)(Hey(I Love You)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C\Users[User Name]\Documents\My Karaoke Files\Pop Hits Monthly September 2009</td>
<td>PNM0909-01(Shaw, Will)(Something Special)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You have listings that start PHM, PHN, and PHU, all followed by 4 numbers, then a hyphen, then two numbers.
Again, you could filter by the folder and be done. But here’s a Filter string you could use:

\[\text{tagpattern}="" \text{AND Not Exclude AND \[NewFName\] LIKE "?PH#####-##]*}\]

You’re asking to find files that start with a single character or number, followed by “PH”, followed by any single character or number, followed by four numbers, a hyphen, then two numbers, then a right bracket, then anything or nothing. Note that the number sign “#” signifies a single number (i.e. 0-9).

It should be mentioned that the string used here is probably overkill, since you’d probably have the same result by simply having this:

\[\text{tagpattern}="" \text{AND Not Exclude AND \[NewFName\] LIKE "?PH#*"}\]

It’s unlikely you’ll have random occurrences of “PH” followed by a single character then a number except for listings that are part of this group. Note I can’t use “?PH*” because that might catch some listings for Phil Collins songs.

Here’s a short list of the pattern characters in the preceding examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character In Pattern</th>
<th>Matches in String</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>Any single character</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>Zero or more characters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>Any single digit (0–9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Things to remember:

- You can’t use the left bracket in your pattern. Use “?” instead
- Don’t forget to use the asterisk at the beginning or end of your pattern (or both), depending on where your pattern is located in the filename.
Appendix B: Using the Edit/Search & Replace Tools

Introduction
The goal of the tools in this section is to enable you to do any of the following actions:

- Edit filenames directly to correct one-of-a-kind errors;
- Simplify the task of replacing either spaces or hyphens with tag brackets when KFNF was not able to identify where they go;
- Remove extra, unnecessary information from a filename
- Add/change information to a group of files all at once

Note: You can always directly edit any of the filenames (i.e. what's in the Parsed Filename field). When working with your list you may find single instances of misspelled artist name or song title. To correct, just click on the field and manually edit it.

Here's a screenshot of the Toolbox:

Using Search & Replace
The first section of the Toolbox can be used to:

- Search for a text string and replace it with a different text string; and
- Search for a text string and remove it (i.e. replace it with nothing)

This tool works just like pretty much every other search and replace tool you use, with one exception. If your search or replacement strings end with one or more spaces, you need to use the tilde character (“~”) to indicate the spaces, instead of an actual space. So if for example you want to search for “The Beatles ” (with a space at the end), you would type “The Beatles~” in the “Search For:” field. (Note: this also means you can’t search for the tilde character itself
since it is being used as a substitute for a space. If you have tildes in your filenames, you will need to deal with them manually.)

**Targeted Search & Replace**

The next section in the Toolbox is a Targeted Search & Replace.

Sometimes you will have a list of filenames with one or more tag delimiters missing (because KFNF couldn’t figure out where they went during its analysis). If you can find a common text string to search for, you might be able to use Search & Replace to add the brackets. But if that’s not possible, you can always use this tool to quickly add the brackets with a single click of your mouse for each filename.

To use the tool, select the character you want to target, either a space or a hyphen. Checking one of the two checkboxes activates the tool. When activated, clicking on a word in the Parsed Filename field will cause KFNF to look to the left of that word to the first occurrence of the target character, either a space or a hyphen. Then KFNF will replace that character with the delimiter brackets.

Here’s an example listing:

In this example, the tag pattern clearly is “TAD”, but the filenames have a hyphen between the Title and Artist, and a space between Artist and DiscID. No wonder KFNF was confused.

To use the tool, first click to check “Convert [SPACE]” then click on the text “sc8931” in each of the listings.

Next, click to check “Convert [HYPHEN]” and click on “brad”, “toby”, “trisha”, etc.
Note: This example actually could have been handled with Search and Replace, giving a slightly different result but still completely satisfactory. How?

First search on “sc8931” (note the first character in the search string is a space) and replace with “][sc8931”

Next, search on “-” and replace with “][”. Here’s the result of doing it this way:

Because you told KFNF to replace all the hyphens with brackets, it replaced the hyphens between the DiscID and Track Number as well as the one between the Title and Artist. That’s no problem, it still works. The only difference is the first method results in three tags with a Tag Pattern of “TAD”. The second method results four tags with a Tag Pattern of “TADR”.

Replace First Space With Brackets

The last tool in this box will go through the entire list and replace the first space it finds in the Parsed Filename with delimiter brackets.

It’s fairly common for filenames to begin with a track number followed by Artist-Title or Title-Artist. It would look like this in your display:

You can see KFNF could tell where to put the tag delimiters because it’s just spaces between all the words in the filename. But you can see the Track Number is first, then a Title, then something that you could just use as the DiscID.

To deal with this, you could first click “Replace First space with brackets”. This takes care of that bit right away and leaves you with this:

Because the DiscIDs all start the same way, with “thmflash”, you can use Search and Replace to handle the other missing brackets.
Search for “thmflash” (remembering to have a space as the first character), replace with “][thmflash”. The final result is this, ready to assign the “RTD” Tag Pattern:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Path</th>
<th>Tag Pattern</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E:\Karaoke\Top Hits Monthly\360 Flashbacks\blue velvet][thmflashbacks31]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E:\Karaoke\Top Hits Monthly\360 Flashbacks\it ain't me baby][thmflashbacks19]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E:\Karaoke\Top Hits Monthly\360 Flashbacks\don't break the heart that loves you][thmflashbacks11]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E:\Karaoke\Top Hits Monthly\360 Flashbacks\mack the knife][thmflashbacks12]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E:\Karaoke\Top Hits Monthly\360 Flashbacks\milk and cookies][thmflashbacks13]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E:\Karaoke\Top Hits Monthly\360 Flashbacks\lonely tears][thmflashbacks14]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E:\Karaoke\Top Hits Monthly\360 Flashbacks\every beat of my heart][thmflashbacks15]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E:\Karaoke\Top Hits Monthly\360 Flashbacks\how sweet it id][thmflashbacks16]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E:\Karaoke\Top Hits Monthly\360 Flashbacks\downtown][thmflashbacks12]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>