

SOME WEBSITES FOR LP TO CD CONVERSIONS

FRANK GADEK © 03/26/2008

Friday, April 04, 2008

SOME WEBSITES FOR LP TO CD CONVERSIONS

Some specific details on websites of interest I found – some may not be obvious and may not be picked up by even Google very well. Also, many change with time, so you have to do your own exploration when you are ready to go further in this type of very enjoyable hobby.

I have included phone numbers in case there are issues with their web sites.

Some sites are very educational in many ways, especially with respect to the special case of converting 78's to CD's.

www.videointerchange.com – a massive site and probably the **overall best** – based in Waldoboro, Maine [phone: 207-832-5064] and there are at least 24 different areas you can explore on this site. Their links are also fantastic. They started out doing commercial conversions of tapes and then even became a great resource for info. You just have to visit the site and spend several hours exploring it to start to appreciate all it can offer.

They do a nice job on the complexities of trying to convert **78's to CD's**, as does **DAK** [noted below] to some extent. Once you see what is involved, it is trivial. However, it is not trivial initially to the beginner.

www.needledoctor.com – needles / styli / cartridges for turntables, among many other related items. They may be slightly more expensive than other sites.

Amazon of course for general and more common turntables, needles / styli / cartridges, and related items + reviews by buyers – great prices and selection, if not going after specialty items.

eBay of course for LP's and related items – but prices and quality can be very variable and questionable.

www.garage-a-records.com – phone: 1888-800-7597 – massive inventory – fun to just explore what is available.

Goldmine magazine seems to be one of the best – www.goldminemag.com – phone 1-800-258-0929. Ask for a free copy and I got several for free. They also list many of the auctions for special LP's that people want, reviews, interviews, ads, etc.

SOME WEBSITES FOR LP TO CD CONVERSIONS

FRANK GADEK © 03/26/2008

www.kabusa.com – phone 908-754-1479 – in Plainfield, NJ so shipping charges can be less – **one of the best**, if not the best for parts I have found – owner is great! Answers emails and even phones you if there are issues with your order – has great educational website with many useful and difficult to get items – a real pro – prices are fine.

www.bagsunlimited.com – phone 1-800 – 767-2247 - great source and prices for plastic bags / sleeves, etc. to fit over your LP's to protect them, if you are going to keep them for the future – they have many more related items, especially for those who just collect things and need things to store them in.

www.nittygrittyinc.com – phone 909-625-5525 – record cleaners – been around for a long time and highly rated, but expensive

I have found “very carefully” washing the records in dish soap + a small amount of bleach – for disinfection – you do not know where these LP's have been if you buy them from others – e.g. 1 teaspoon of bleach per 1 – 2 gallons of water – seems to work ok for most LP's – also use a special carbon fiber brush that has bristles that fit into the grooves to help cleaning action – 78's can be a special case – cleaning is always risky for any record, but only you can decide – check the Maine web site out for a picture of a tiny bug and its excrement on a record groove!!! + all the dust, mold, mildew, debris, etc. over all those years since the record was made – even a light vacuuming can help

Some feel make a CD copy and then try to clean the LP – of course, various software “cleanups” also can be used.

www.turntablebasics.com – has limited items, but some essential items – very good educational site also.

www.78rpm.com – Nauck's Vintage Records – phone – 281-288-7826 - massive [> 100 pages] glossy catalog on items for auction and many excellent colored photos of classic 78 and other types of records. Edison Diamond Discs, cylinders and much printed matter are also featured.

Joslin's Jazz Journal, email: electodeon@yahoo.com – phone – 620-421-4114 – newspaper type journal with many auctions and other sources covered, besides some very informative and well researched articles.

DAK website [www.dak.com] – system I found best for me to do the conversion of LP's to CD's – very inexpensive [< \$100 – more depending on what else you may need] + fantastic detailed directions, pictures, “how to” downloads, etc. This site is noted for this for their many other electronic devices

Also a new device at DAK is a new **USB audio adapter** [actually an external sound card 2” big in a larger case] - you can use a laptop because the device provides a “line in jack” like desktops have, but many laptops do not.

It is \$40 and works for XP and VISTA and just plugs into your USB port. No software is involved since it is plug and play.

If you want to use a laptop in a demo of how to convert LP's to CD's, this may be useful, since you would not have to bring a desktop or have one available for the demonstration.

Drew the owner of DAK in his website description says you plug in his Mixer Interface System to it. I have such a Mixer Interface System and it works fine with my old 1970's Radio Shack turntable. With my new **Audio-Technica turntable [about \$220 Amazon & free shipping]**, it provides a line in output to the computer, so I do not need the Mixer Interface System for my setup any more. I got it for this old 1970's Radio Shack system when I first started in LP to CD conversions.

So I presume you can do the same thing with the more modern turntable system you may be using.

If you get it and it does not work for some reason, it can be returned in 30 days. I have always found them to be a VERY good company to deal with [see below].

From my experience with my old Radio Shack turntable, I would recommend that you get a new turntable. The old ones just do not have all the nice features the newer turntables have.

Please see other areas of this website of mine for more specific details on my system for converting LP's to CD's.