

TRAKTOR FS

PC Installation Manual

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Registration

Please fill in the Final Scratch registration card and send it to Native Instruments. If registering online is more convenient, you can register your product on the Final Scratch homepage (www.finalscratch.com). Registered customers have access to exclusive services, including:

- free technical support
- free software updates
- upgrades/crossgrades
- free info service (online registration only)
- password for the web user area, which includes forums, software presets, and more

System Requirements and Recommendations

To use the TRAKTOR FS software you need a computer with the following specifications:

Minimum Requirements

- Intel Pentium III processor, 500 MHz clock rate
- 128 MB RAM
- 400 MB free space on the hard disk
- USB Port
- Windows 98/ME/2000/XP

Recommended

- Intel Pentium III processor, 700 MHz clock rate or higher
- 256 MB RAM

Preparing Your Computer

The installation of Traktor FS on a Windows based computer is somewhat different from usual software, as Traktor FS does not use Windows to run, but comes with its own, Linux based operating system.

The installation CD of Traktor FS is a bootable CD, meaning that besides the application it contains the complete operating system necessary to run to install the software. The following paragraph explains how to boot your computer from CD instead of booting Windows.

Booting your computer from CD

If you want to run or to install Traktor FS from CD you need make sure that the computer boots directly from CD instead of booting into Windows. This can happen automatically on some computers, if a bootable CD is inserted into the CD-ROM drive or has to be forced by changing the so called „boot sequence“ of your computer.

Changing the Boot Sequence

Immediately after powering on your computer the bottom line displays an information about how to control the boot process and how to get access to the BIOS Setup. The BIOS is a menu of basic settings used by your computer before the operating system takes over control. This line usually looks something like:

Press <F2> to enter Setup, press <C> to boot from CD

If there is an option to manually force booting from CD, like in the above example, you are lucky and you don't need to enter the setup. Some computers also offer an option to change the boot sequence on the fly:

Press <F12> for Boot Menu

The above messages are prompted only for 1 to 2 seconds. If you missed them, just reboot your computer and be ready to press the correct key.

Note: The CD has to be placed in the CD drive before you try to boot the computer from CD.

If your computer does not offer you a shortcut to boot directly from CD or to change the boot sequence, you need to manually modify the boot sequence in the BIOS Setup. After pressing the correct key to enter the BIOS setup, the screen will change from black & white to the first page of the BIOS setup. The Boot Sequence is most likely stored in a section called something like „Advanced Settings“ or „Boot“. If you don't find it, please refer to the documentation of your computer.

As the BIOS menus are programmed by the manufacturers the navigation within the menus are slightly different on every computer. In most cases you use the arrow keys to navigate to an option, then you use the Enter key to select the option and again the arrow keys or the PgUp/PgDn keys to change the option. In most cases there is a little legend explaining the possible actions and the associated shortcuts.

If you found the boot sequence option change it to:

1. CD-ROM, 2. HD, ...

This way your computer will first check, if there is a bootable CD in your CD-ROM drive and only if there is none, boots from HD.

Note: Checking the CD-ROM drive first will slightly slow down the booting process. After having successfully installed Traktor FS on your HD, you should therefore switch back the BIOS to the 1. HD, 2. CD-ROM, ...

After changing the BIOS press F10 or the corresponding key to save your settings and restart the computer.

Running Traktor FS for the First Time

Booting the Installation CD

When booting the computer from CD, after a few seconds, instead of the usual Windows startup screen you will see the installation startup screen with the Traktor FS logo.

Important: Some computers do not support the graphics mode of the installer and the installation will stop with a black screen. To overcome this, you can enter the string **nologo** and confirm with **ENTER** immediately after the first two text lines of the installation have been displayed. You have to be very fast to enter the string in the right moment, if you missed the point, just reboot your computer and be faster next time.

After a few seconds the process halts and lets you select the language of your keyboard for all future commands. Select an option and confirm with Enter (this manual only describes the english version of the installation).

Hereafter you get the following options:

- **1 - Run Traktor FS from CD (without installation)**
- **2 - Import Final Scratch collection**
- **3 - Install Traktor FS to your hard disk**
- **3 - Remove Traktor FS from your hard disk**
- **4 - Expert Tools**
- **5 - Eject CD and reboot computer**

Note: Before continuing, verify the correct connection of the ScratchAmp. When connecting or disconnecting the USB cable always wait a few seconds before the next action, as the operating system needs some time to register and unregister the device.

Running Traktor FS from CD without Installation

At first you should try to run Traktor FS directly from CD without installation to check, if your computer meets the needed requirements. By clicking on the first option no. 1, you will directly start Traktor FS without installing it on your hard drive. From here on refer to the section 'Spinning Traktor FS' in the printed manual for your first tests.

After that you can come back to this page and proceed to install Traktor FS on your hard drive.

Some Background about Filing Systems

On your computer you will need a minimum of 400 MB of free disk space on the last partition of one of your HD's , to install Traktor FS. The following paragraph will guide you through the preparatory steps for the installation process.

If you want to find out more about the filing system used on your computer, you can open the Windows 'Computer Management' by right-clicking on the 'My Computer' icon on your desktop or in the Windows File-Explorer and selecting the option 'Manage'. In the left part of the 'Computer Management' select 'Disc Management'. This displays an overview of the discs connected to your computer indicating their filing system and the available space on each partition. It also shows you how your partitions, identified by letters, such as C: or D: are physically located on your hard disk(s).

NTFS and FAT32 Filing System

To organize the data on the hard disk, the operating system of your computer needs a way of 'bookkeeping': the 'filing system'. The filing system on the disk keeps track of essential information, e.g. which files reside where in a certain partition, when they were created, what the names and folders they are organized in.

You will continue to use Windows for downloading tracks from the Internet, for encoding your CD's or ripping your vinyl records. To allow Traktor FS to use these files they have to be stored by a filing system supported by both operating systems, Windows and Linux. **FAT32** is such a filing system.

The newer **NTFS** file system is a Microsoft proprietary file system used by Windows NT, Windows 2000 and Windows XP only. NTFS has a series of advantages compared to FAT32 but a main disadvantage for Traktor FS users:

Traktor FS can only read from and not write any data to NTFS partitions.

More in detail this results to the following limitations when using Traktor FS on a pure NTFS computer:

- Traktor FS can not write ID3 tags into MP3 files located on the NTFS partition.
- The Collection and playlists are not directly available from Windows as they have to be stored on the Linux partition.
- Before installing Traktor FS on a pure NTFS computer, it is advisable to run a defragmentation program on the install-partition, as described in the following paragraph.

Defragmentation on NTFS computers

The required 400 MB of free space on your HD need to be physically located at the end of a hard disk. The available space on your HD's is checked during installation and subsequently the content of the disk rearranged in order to clean up the filing system. This process is usually called 'defragmentation'.

Due to the read-only limitation described above the installer is not able to perform the defragmentation on a pure NTFS filing system. In this case you have to make the defragmentation by yourself **before** you start installing Traktor FS, using the Windows-Defragmentation-Tool. This tool can be applied to the desired partition in the 'Disk-Administration' you currently have on your screen.

Right-click on the last (left-most) partition on which you want to install Traktor FS and chose the option 'Properties'. In the Properties choose the 'Extra' tab and click on the 'Defragmentation' button.

Note: The process of defragmentation can require some time - even several hours, depending on the degree of fragmentation of your filing system. Fragmentation is part of Windows standard file maintenance functions, represents no risk to your data and can be interrupted and seamless resumed at any time.

Creating a FAT32 partition on a NTFS computer

If you don't want to be restricted to the NTFS limitations of Traktor FS on a NTFS computer, you have to create at least one FAT32 partition that Traktor FS can use to store information and that you will use for storing your music files. The only way to get FAT32 on an NTFS computer is to format a complete partition because NTFS partitions can not be simply converted into FAT32 with standard Windows functions without losing all data on that partition. Therefore you have three possibilities:

- If you have more than one partition on your computer you can remove all data from the last one (i.e. D:, E:,...) and then format it as FAT32. Formatting a partition is also done from the 'Disk Management' window, by right-clicking on the partition, choosing the 'Format' option and selecting the FAT32 filing system
- If you have only one partition (i.e. C:) you can buy a new HD (internal or external) for your music data and format it as FAT32.
- If you have a large unique NTFS partition you can use a third party tool, such as the 'Partition Wizard' in the Expert Tools menu of the Traktor FS installer to resize your NTFS partition and to create a new FAT32 partition on the resulting free part of your HD.

The second option is definitely the safest one and makes a lot of sense, as you will realize that there is never enough space for music on your computer.

Data Backup

Even though the installation process has been thoroughly tested on many computers, the possibility of data loss, when creating a new partition on your hard drive can't be totally excluded. Therefore be sure to backup all important data from your hard drive before installing Traktor FS.

Installing Traktor FS

Once you created the desired filing system on your computer and once you created 400 MB of free space at the end of the last partition on one of your drives you can proceed to the installation of Traktor FS.

Insert the CD into your CD-ROM drive and boot the computer from CD as described on page 8. Select your language and in the first menu select '**3 - Install Traktor FS to your hard disk**' and confirm your choice by pressing Enter.

The next menu gives you three options for the subsequent installation process:

- **1 - Shrink last partition (non destructive)**
- **2 - Install Traktor FS on unpartitioned drive space**
- **3 - Use existing partition (all data will be lost)**

At first you can try to use option **2**, to find out if you have un-used un-partitioned space on your HD to be used for the installation of Traktor FS. The installer will tell you, if the needed space of 400 MB is available on your HD. If this fails due to lack of free space you have to select option **1** for the installation. Option **3** is only needed, if you prepared an empty partition by yourself beforehand. Attention! Option **3** erases all data on the selected partition - so better use this option with care.

After selecting option **2** or **3** the installer displays all drives installed on your computer and the available space on their last partitions. The disk info looks similar to the following line:

disc0 (size: 19077 MB, free: 211 MB)

disc1 (size: 25756 MB, free: 2354 MB)

With the arrow keys you can select one of the disk's for the installation. After confirming your choice with **Enter**, you will have to confirm the license agreement then and then re-confirm the installation with **Yes**.

A progress bar shows you the state of the installation, this can take from 2 to 15 minutes(!!!) according to the state of fragmentation of your partition.

Important: Even if the installation seems to 'hang' do not interrupt the process, because this can cause serious damage to your filing system.

After successful installation the process will return to the main menu selection.

Starting the application for the first time

On the main menu select the option: **5 - Eject CD and reboot computer** to start the freshly installed Traktor FS from your hard drive.

Each time you start your computer, a boot menu will appear, offering you the following choices:

1 - Windows

2 - Traktor FS

3 - Traktor FS (safe mode in case of problems)

To start Traktor FS use the second option. The third option is only needed if the second does not work (it disables the graphics mode that might not be supported by your computer). The default choice (Windows) will be booted automatically after 10 seconds.

Note: Make sure that the ScratchAmp is connected **before** you boot your computer, otherwise Traktor FS will not recognize it correctly.

Uninstalling and Reinstalling the Software

To un-install or reinstall Traktor FS, follow the same procedure as the normal installation, i.e. insert the installation CD. Select the option **4 - Remove Traktor FS from you hard disk** to remove the previous installation.

Note: If you uninstall Traktor FS, your songs and song information will not be deleted from the hard disk.

Updating the software

Downloading an update

From Windows, go to the Final Scratch Web site:

www.finalscratch.com

Download the latest available update files. The updates will extract themselves into an appropriate directory on your HD, by double clicking them.

If you want to upgrade from one version to another, you also need to download all the updates in between those versions.

Installing the update

To install the update, reboot the computer, launch and subsequently quit Traktor FS to get to the Service Menu. Select the option: **3 - Update Traktor FS** and confirm by pressing **Enter**.

After successfully running the update it is advisable to reboot the computer.

Migrating from Final Scratch 1.0

Using Traktor FS alongside Final Scratch 1.0

The Installation of Traktor FS does not overwrite your Final Scratch 1.0 Installation. You will be able to use both programs on the same computer. No additional precautions are needed, to install Traktor FS on a computer running Final Scratch 1.0. Besides the options to boot Windows and Traktor FS, the initial boot menu that shows up, when you start your computer, will have an additional entry, to boot directly into Final Scratch 1.0.

Exporting your FS 1.0 Record Boxes

To use your record boxes from Final Scratch 1.0 in Traktor FS you need to install an update for Final Scratch. This update is provided as zipped file on the Traktor FS installation CD (**fs_update_1_0_7_1_0_8.zip**). Copy the file to your FS updates folder and run the software update once. This will create a copy of your FS Record Boxes in the Traktor FS collection file format. Your FS 1 record boxes will not be altered in any way by this update.

Importing the Record Boxes into Traktor FS

The next step is to reboot Traktor FS. When Traktor FS is up, quit the application to enter the Service menu and chose the option **2 - Import Final Scratch collection**, to import your previously exported record boxes. When starting Traktor FS the next time, the FS record boxes will show up as Traktor FS cases in the Tree Window.

Attention: The procedure of transferring FS Record Boxes to Traktor FS overwrites your Traktor FS collection. You do the transfer before you started collecting songs in your Traktor FS collection. To merge the FS Record Boxes into an existing Traktor FS collection you have to save the complete collection as playlist and re-import it after the transfer. For more details about playlist handling in Traktor FS refer to the printed users manual.

Expert Tools

The Expert Tools option available in the Main menu offer a series of useful tools for solving installation problems.

Resizing Partitions Using Partition Wizard

Partition Wizard is an easy to use application to manage your filing system. Besides graphically showing your disks and partitions Partition Wizard has one important feature not available in the Windows Disc Management described on page 9: it can change the size of partitions (resizing).

The left window of Partition Wizard shows an overview of the hard drives connected to your computer. Select one of the drives by clicking it with the mouse or moving the cursor with the arrow keys.

Note: After you selected a drive, Partition Wizard might need up to 1 minute to read out the information of the filing system.

The right window displays the partitions of the selected drive, in a graphical representation in the upper part of the interface and as list in the lower part. The most interesting information is shown in the **Type** column: the filing system. This can be: 'fat32', 'ntfs' or 'extended'. The 'extended' type is the one created by the installation program. Refer to page 9 for more information about partitions and filing systems.

After uninstalling Traktor FS the 'extended' partition is not automatically deleted. This can be done in Partition Wizard, by selecting the option 'Delete' from the context menu of the 'extended' partition to be removed.

Important: Do not delete the 'extended' partition before uninstalling Traktor FS with the proper uninstallation procedure described on page 14. Deleting the partition without previous uninstallation can result in 'locking up' your computer, because the boot manager does not find the requested files. Refer to page 18 to repair corrupted bootloaders.

After this operation the remaining space will be labeled as 'free' to indicate that this space of the hard drive is not formatted for any filing system. You can now select the last formatted partition (fat32 or ntfs) and choose the 'Resize' option in its context menu. This opens a graphical representation of the last partition and the available space for resizing. You can now extend the partition to the desired size by clicking on the right border of the partition and dragging it with the mouse.

Graphic Settings

- **Force redetection of graphics card (enable auto detection)** is used for instance, if you installed a new graphics card in your computer. The installer then checks if a new driver is needed to support the new card.
- **Force use of VESA driver (disable auto detection)** forces the system to use the generic VESA driver, regardless which graphics card is installed. On some Laptops this mode is the only way to run Traktor FS.

System Info

This option plays a central role in debugging and support issues. It shows detailed information about your system, such as info about your PCI and USB bus, your CPU, your partitions and your kernel.

The first option: **1 - Save System Info**, allows you to store all that information into a zipped text file, called '**nisinfo.zip**'. Refer to for page 18 a detailed instruction about reporting your system info to the support team.

Repair Traktor FS bootloader

This option repairs the Traktor FS bootloader. It is needed, if the Grub got uninstalled by using 'fdisk /mbr' in DOS/WIN. It is also needed if you want to reinstall Final Scratch 1.0 after having installed Traktor FS.

Repair Windows bootloader

Does exactly the opposite: use this option to restore your system for pure Windows use, if for any reason your boot loader got corrupted while uninstalling Traktor FS.

How to send your 'system info' to the software support

Introduction

If you experience any type of problems with Traktor FS (Linux) or the installer of it, it may be of great help if you **immediately** save the current system information. All components do extensive logging, so chances will be good to catch the problem without further trouble. To prevent the logs from being filled up with too much noise after the problem, it is very important that you save them as soon as possible.

Save system information

To backup your system information, select the "Expert Tools" item from the main menu and the select "Save system information". The installer will now present a menu where you have to select the location where the system information should be saved to. Select from:

- **"Floppy disc"**: if you have a floppy drive. Before selecting please insert a formatted floppy disc into the drive. The disc doesn't need to be blank, but has to provide at least 100KB of free space.
- **"First available FAT partition"**: if you don't have a floppy disc drive or no suitable disc to hand. The installer will scan all your hard disc drives for a FAT16/32 formatted partition. If a suitable drive is found it will send or save the system information to it.
- **"TraktorFS partition on HDD"**: if you don't have a floppy disc (drive) or a FAT partition and have previously installed TraktorFS onto your hard disc drive. This will backup the system information to your TraktorFS partition.

Locate system information

After you saved the system information, boot into your regular operating system. You will now have to locate the data depending on which location you chose to save it to:

- **"Floppy disc"**: easy, just insert the floppy disc and grab the file "nisinfo.zip"
- **"First available FAT partition"**: browse through all your drive letters and look for a file called "nisinfo.zip" in the root directory of each drive. (e.g. c:\nisinfo.zip, d:\nisinfo.zip, ...)
- **"TraktorFS partition on HDD"**: you will need an additional tool to extract the data from the TraktorFS partition:
to get this tool, go to the following URL and grab the file <http://uranus.it.swin.edu.au/~jn/explore2fs/explore2fs-1.00pre6.zip>
 - Extract the contents to a directory
 - Run explore2fs.exe
 - Select the partition on the left-hand side where you installed Traktor FS (there will most probably be just a single partition)
 - On the right side locate the file "nisinfo.zip"
 - Right click on it and select "Export file"
 - Select a location on your hard disc

Send the System Information

The Traktor FS online support form provides a field to upload the file alongside with your bug report. This gives to the support team the maximum information about your system and should help to resolve your problem fast. Due to the small size of the file you can also send it as attachment to your E-mail, if you got a request from the support team to do so.

The NI online support is located at:

<http://www.nativeinstruments.com/traktorfs1support.info>