





eMPlayer 2.9.5.2

# User Manual for eMplayer 2.9 Beta

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#### 1. Introduction

First of all, let us say that we don't aim this program as a replacement for any of the state of the art audio players available. This is just a small project for educational purpose and is distributed under the GNU General Public License. This program will always be in Beta because of its many limitations.

This project was born from the Research and development for a number of other projects and uses all of our knowledge to the fullest and to make the interface as helpful to the end user as possible. As for the developers, we are more than happy to share all the source code for this project so that this may be made better.

eMplayer takes it roots when we developed an interactive JavaScript based solution for our interactive cd -'Summer Softs 2006 Plus!'. It enabled the user to select from a list of 7 songs, a play list in the order they wished. Since it used cookies, ran from within a browser and was on a CD-ROM, it had many limitations. We first started with a Quick Play mode, which lets the user play a single song. That was really an easy part and is now really not at all an important feature. We used the core idea of play lists from the 'Summer Softs 2006 Plus!' project and how to present the interface and manipulate physical play lists from 'CrytpX' project. The GUI is an HTA (HTML Application). It is essentially an HTML page with security features lessened and considered more as an application or program. For more information on the HTA technology, refer to http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/workshop/author/ hta/overview/htaoverview.asp.

Although this program contains a number of limitations, the core functional feature should be the ability to create physical play lists and to load them at the click of a button. A volume controller has been the latest developmental addition, just hours before creating the executable setup program, which does contain a small bug but we decided to leave it like that for the moment.

### 2. The Interfaces

This program features two basic modes – Quick play and Play list modes each with its own features and level of complications.

Quick play mode offers the user the interface to play a single song at a time.

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Fig : Quick Play Mode interface

The Play List mode lets the user create his\her own play list, even save it physically onto a secondary storage device and load it at the press of a button.

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MPlaye	er 2.98		About	Help
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Skins	<b>.</b> <u>60</u>		Skin : Rusty	Brow Max Med Avg Low

Fig : Play list Mode interface.

## 3. Saving and Deleting the Play lists

To solve one of the drawbacks of the play list mode, we added an additional functionality of saving and deleting play lists on the secondary storage medium so that they can be retrieved almost instantly when you start the program. This feature has added increased user experience immensely.

			-
Playlist Name	-	Available	

This menu is located in the Play list Mode beneath the file browser for the play list. After you have created your play list, to save it as a play list for future use, follow these simple steps.

#### Saving a play list

First of all, type in the name of the play list in the column which contains the text field '**Play list Name...**' Then Press the + button for saving the play list. Just make sure that the play list name can be of any length, except that it should not contain the characters - \_: ? \* < >  $| / \$ ". Also the play list name is case sensitive meaning 'Rock' is not the same as 'rock' or 'ROCK'.

#### Adding songs to an existing play list

To add a file to an existing play list, select the required play list from the available drop down menu. The first song will start to play. Press browse and locate the file(s) and press 'Add to Play List'. The file(s) will be added at the end of the Now Playing list. Give the same name as the current play list in the 'Play list Name...' field. And then press **\*** to overwrite the existing play list with the new contents.

#### **Deleting a play list**

To delete an existing play list, type the name of the play list in the **'Play list Name...**' field. Then press  $\times$  to delete the play list permanently.

### 4. Skin Changer

The skin changer was added in version 2.9 to start the final stages in the development of eMplayer2. We had this in our mind ever since version 2 and had developed a couple of skins by version 2.6, but the user had to manually change folder names to take the effect of skin changing.



The skin Changer is located to the left of the Media Controller. It shows '**Skins**' by default. Click on the arrow down and you will be shown a list of available Skins. Once you have selected the skin that you wish to load, press '**Go**'. If the skin is not applied the first time, press '**Go**' again. This could be caused if your system is running too many applications and the script takes longer to execute.

For more info on the skinChanger component, see components/Skin Changer.

### 5. How to create your own Skin

You can create skins yourself. You can find a template among the source files that we are providing for this project. All you need is Macromedia Fireworks MX or above.

- 1. Edit the template image to your needs; export them to a new folder you create in the '**skins**' directory.
- 2. Copy the style.css and sInfo.sid files to that directory.
- 3. Edit the style.css file for applying the styles for the page.
- 4. Open sInfo.sid file (Skin ID) in notepad and type the name you wish to get displayed for the skin.
- 5. Open skins.sif file (Skin Index File) in notepad and add your text in the following format,
  - \*<skinFolderName>#<skinDisplayName>.

### 6. Using the Volume Controller

The latest development into the eMplayer program is the volume controller, we seriously missed it. We couldn't fit a slider for that but were able to fit a selection box.

Max Med Ava Low

Fig: Volume Controller

Selecting Max plays the audio file at the maximum sound available from the current system settings. Med, Avg and Low are other lesser volume settings. The one at the bottom most part is No and is equivalent to Mute. The latest bug fix means that the volume you select is used throughout the session of running eMplayer.

## 7. Using the Shuffle Mode

It will be quite difficult to find out the button for enabling the shuffle. This is the latest development from our Software Research Labs. The checkbox for enabling the shuffle mode lies between the Interval Picker and the Text box saying 'Playlist Name...' right below the File browser in the play list mode. Note that you have to click the checkbox then load a play list file for this to work.

### 8. More Information

More recent and updated information is available at the website of eMplayer Project at:

http://www.geocities.com/mhkonline2/downloads/index.html?emplayer2

To find out about our other projects to be downloaded

http://www.geocities.com/mhkonline2/

And the root of it all.

http://www.geocities.com/mhkonline2/

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February 13, 2007



