

# Peak Tutorial: Creating a Continuous-play CD in Peak

## Introduction

This tutorial will guide you through the process of creating a continuous mix audio CD in Peak. A continuous mix is typically found on commercially produced CDs of DJ mixes or live concerts. Continuous mix CDs contain separate tracks, just like standard audio CDs, so that the listener can navigate the CD, but there are no gaps or pauses between tracks. The end result is that if you listen to the CD from beginning to end, it sounds like one long track, with no interruptions between songs. Since the steps are different in Peak LE than Peak Pro, I will show both methods.

To create a continuous mix audio CD, you'll need to have audio (such as a DJ mix or concert – though any audio will work) recorded and saved to your hard drive. This type of audio material is generally found as a single long audio document, and that's the type of example we'll be working with in this tutorial.

For information on making a compilation CD from many different audio documents, please see the tutorial called "Burning Audio CDs with Peak", available from the documentation section of the BIAS website.

This tutorial assumes that audio has already been recorded and saved.

You'll follow three main steps to create an audio CD in Peak LE.

1. Place a Marker in the audio waveform to designate where each song ends, and the next begins.
2. Create Regions, which will become the tracks on your finished CD.
3. Burn the CD.

For more information about Regions and burning CDs, see your Peak 6 User's Guide.

## Creating a Continuous Mix CD

Follow the steps below to mark where each song starts and ends. These marked portions of the audio document will serve as guides for creating Regions, the next step in the process.

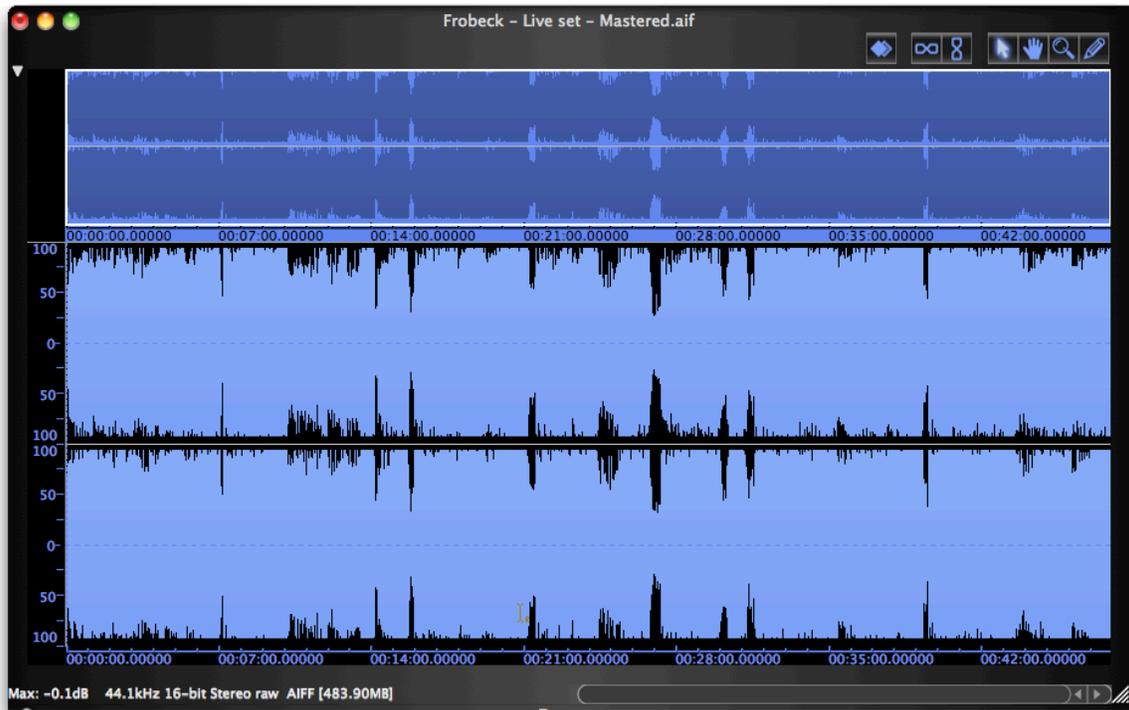


*The steps outlined below work for Peak LE or Peak Pro. Peak Pro users should also see the next section, which shows a much easier technique that uses a feature only found in the Pro edition of Peak.*

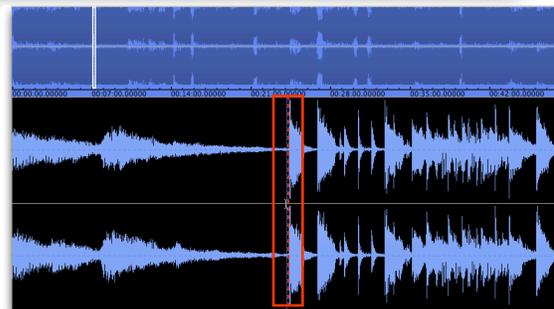
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## To mark the beginning/end of each song/track:

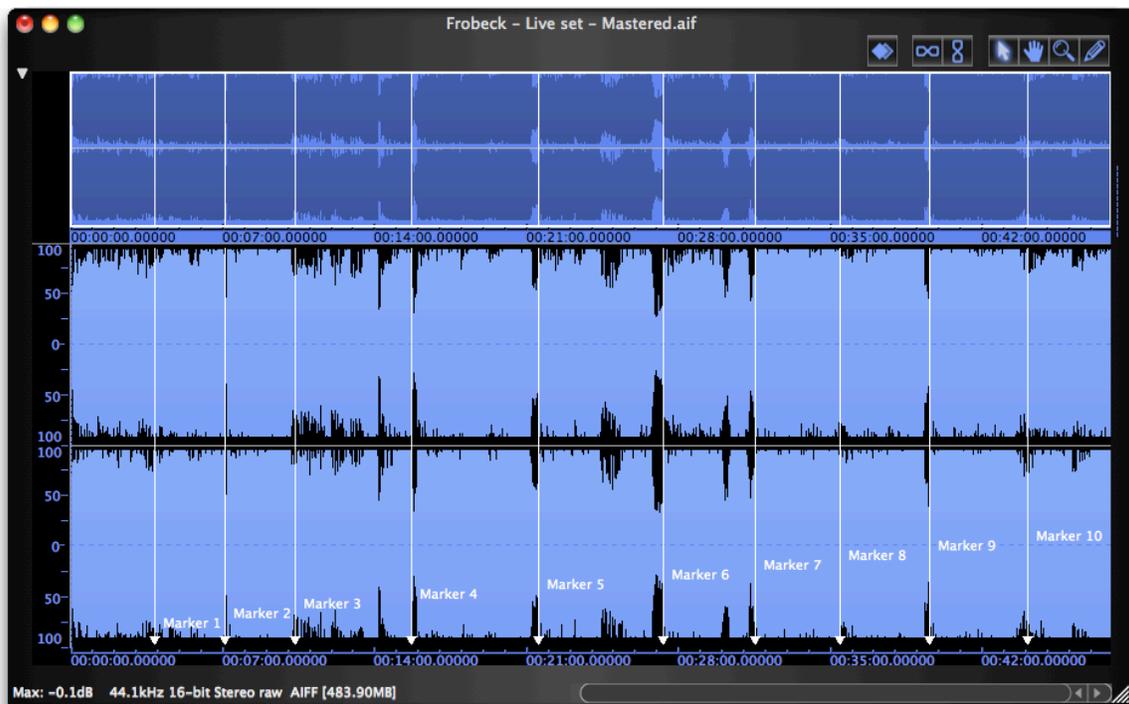
1. Open a stereo DJ mix or live concert recording in Peak.
2. In Peak's waveform overview, locate the mix between songs 1 and 2 (in a live concert recording, this would usually be the section containing audience applause between two songs).
3. Zoom in a bit, and click in the overview, just before the mix between songs 1 and 2 – this will cause the main waveform to automatically jump to this part of the file, and will start playback – you may need to audition this part a few times to find the exact location of the transition between the first two songs.



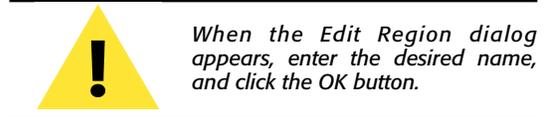
4. Place Peak's insertion point cursor at the point you would like to be the end of song 1 and the beginning of song 2.
5. From the Action menu, choose New Marker (⌘-M).
6. Repeat for each additional mix between songs.
7. Zoom out all the way.



*insertion point cursor*

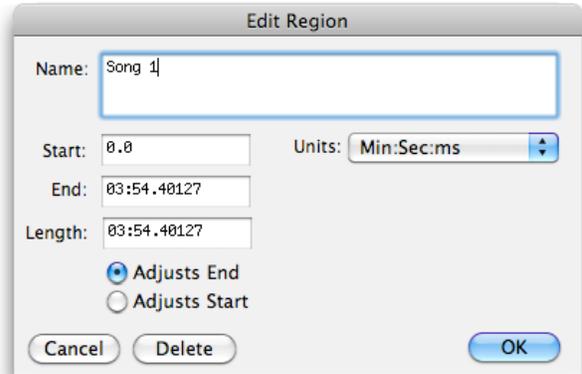
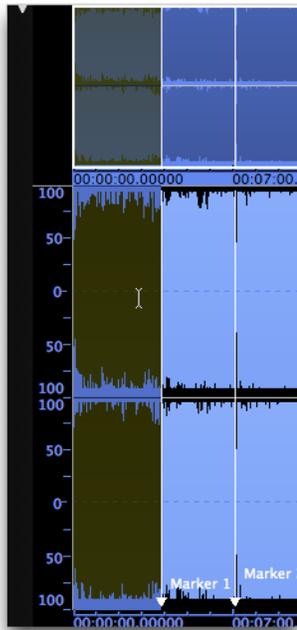


The next section shows how to turn each section between markers into a “Region” – each Region will be a separate track when we burn an audio CD.

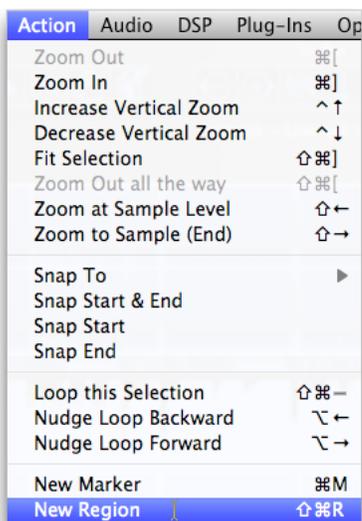


## Creating a Region for each Song/Track

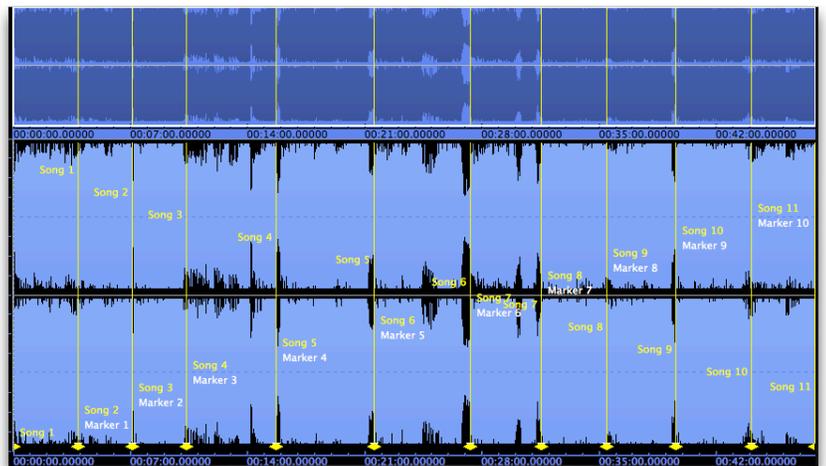
8. ⌘-Click in the part of the audio waveform between the left edge of the window and the first marker to select \*just\* that section.



9. From the Action menu, choose New Region.



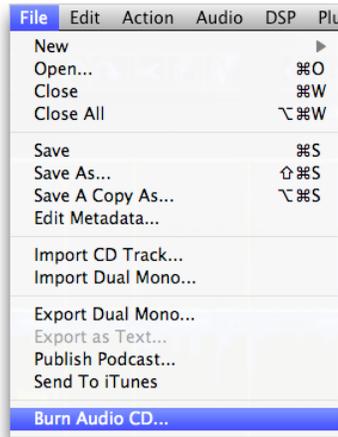
10. Press the Tab key to select the space between the next two markers – that is, the space between the first and second markers, or the second song.
11. Create another Region – this time, use the keyboard shortcut ⌘-Shift-R – enter the desired Region name, and click the OK button.
12. Repeat until all the songs have had a Region created for them.



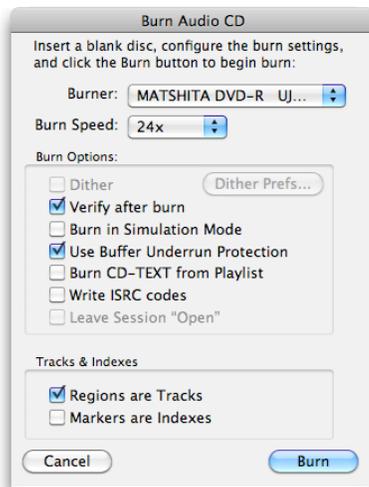
The next section shows how to burn these Regions as a Red Book audio CD, with no gaps, that will play in any CD player.

## Burning the CD

- From the Edit menu, choose Select All (⌘-A) – because we want all the Regions burned to CD.
- From the File menu, choose Burn Audio CD.



- In the Burn Audio CD dialog, check the Regions are Tracks checkbox.



- Insert a blank CD into your burner and click the Burn button – in few minutes you'll have a continuous mix CD!

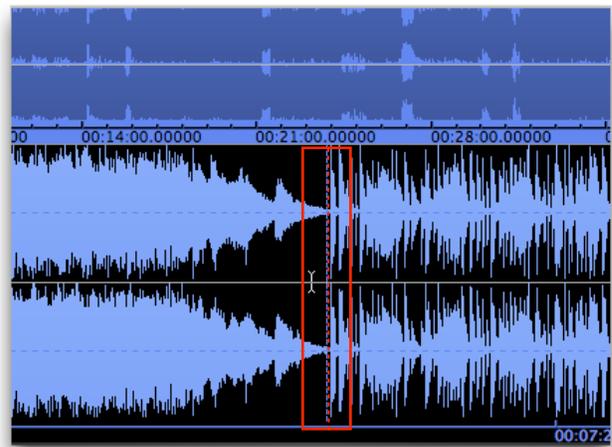
So that's all there is to making continuous mix audio CDs – if you use Peak Pro, read over the next section, as it contains a shortcut for creating Regions.

## Using Peak Pro's New Region Split Command

If you're working with the Pro edition, there's a slightly different approach to Region creation, as Peak Pro contains a great feature called New Region Split. Just as its name implies this command splits the audio into two regions at the placement of the cursor. This can make the process of defining Regions much faster, especially on CDs that contain many tracks.

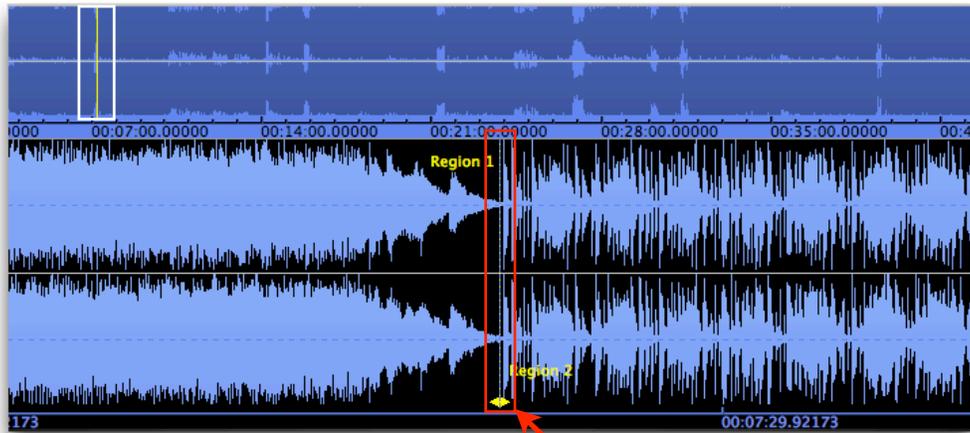
### Shortcut for Creating Regions in Peak Pro:

- In Peak's waveform overview, locate the mix between songs 1 and 2 (in a live concert recording, this would usually be the section containing audience applause between two songs).
- Zoom in a bit, and click in the overview, just before the mix between songs 1 and 2 – this will cause the main waveform to automatically jump to this part of the file, and will start playback – you may need to audition this part a few times to find the exact location of the transition between the first two songs.
- Place Peak's insertion point cursor at the point you would like to be the end of song 1 and the beginning of song 2.



*insertion point cursor*

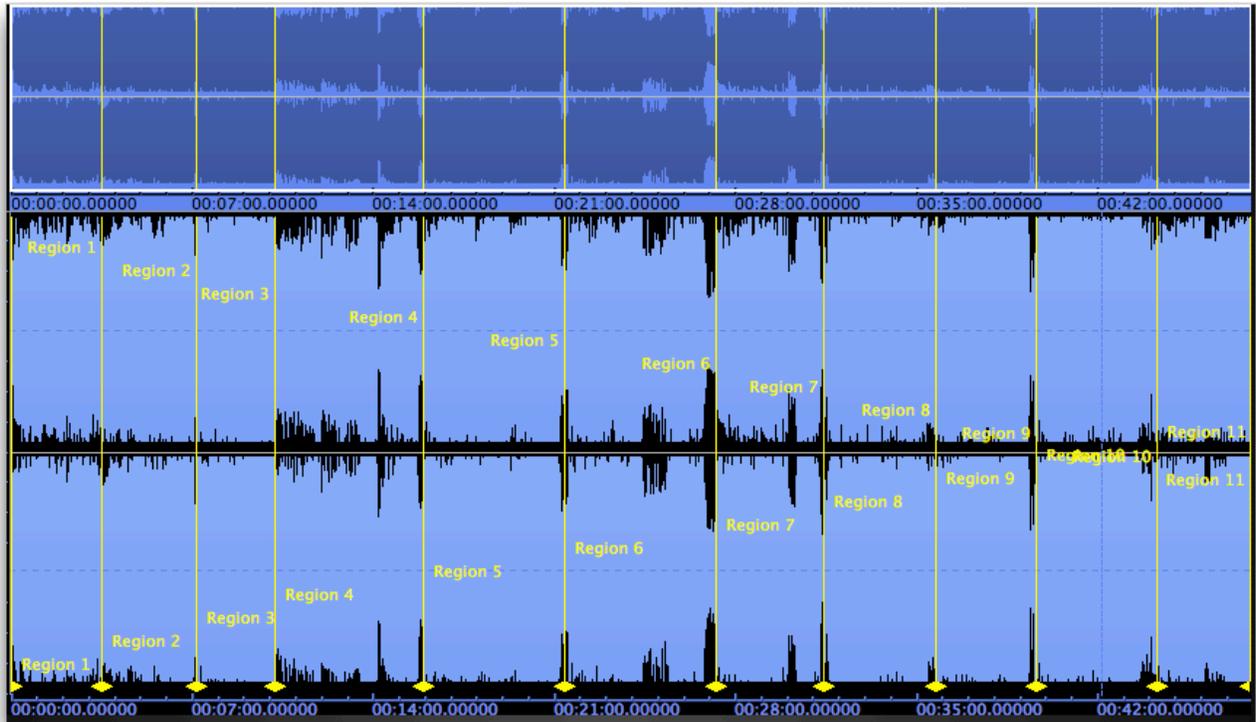
- From the Action menu, choose New Region Split (control+Shift+ ⌘-R).



- Repeat until all the songs have had a Region created for them.

*Two new regions are created*

The steps for burning a CD are the same as above.



That's how you create a continuous mix CD in Peak – it's very easy to do, whether you use Peak LE or Peak Pro.

Additional Peak tutorials are available on the BIAS website, at:

<http://www.bias-inc.com/downloads/documentation/>