

10. How to modify an MP3 track so that it becomes soft background music.

At the end of this lesson you will be able to execute the procedure for modifying an MP3 track so that it becomes soft background music by decreasing the amplification of the whole track and selecting the beginning and end of the track with the selection tool and adding a **Fade In** and **Fade Out** effect.

Step One:

As before with the MP3 open and displayed on the screen as a jagged blue waveform, we are now going to edit the sound. Highlight the beginning portion of the audio track with the **Selection Tool** to add **Fade In**.

Step Two:

Click **Effect > Utility > Fade In**.

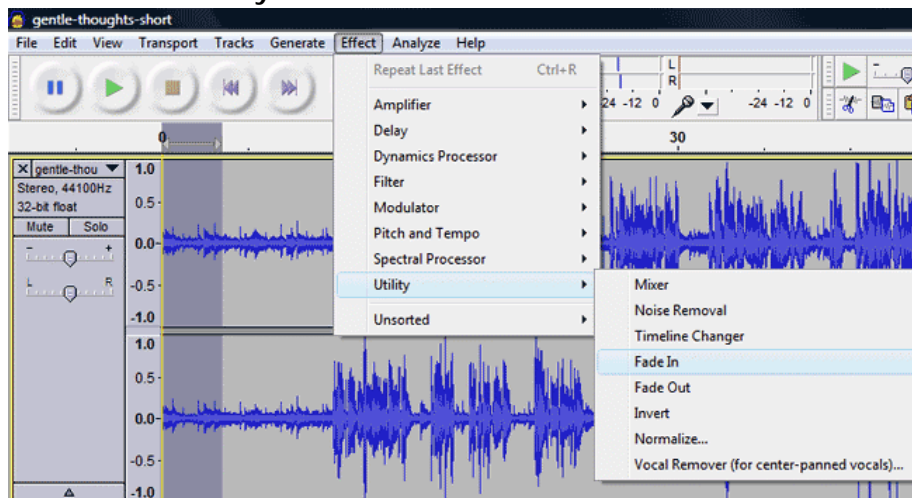


Figure 10.1 Fade In tool

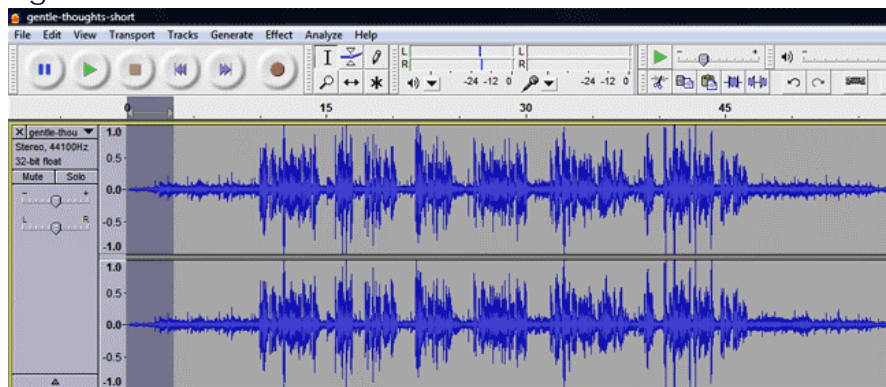


Figure 10.2 Audio track after Fade In has been applied

Step Three:

Now we are going to add **Fade Out** to the end of the track. Highlight the end portion of the audio track with the **Selection Tool**. To highlight, hold the mouse over the area you want to apply the Fade Out and drag keeping the left mouse button pressed. Then select **Effect > Utility > Fade Out**.

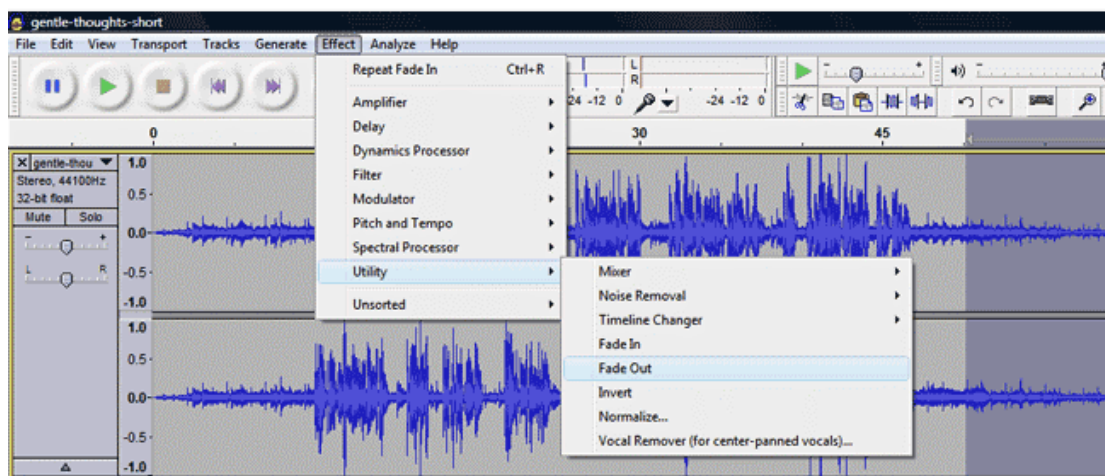


Figure 10.3 Fade Out tool

Step Four:

To soften the music so that it becomes background music highlight the entire track with the Selection Tool. Select **Effect > Amplifier > Amplify**. The Amplify dialog box opens.

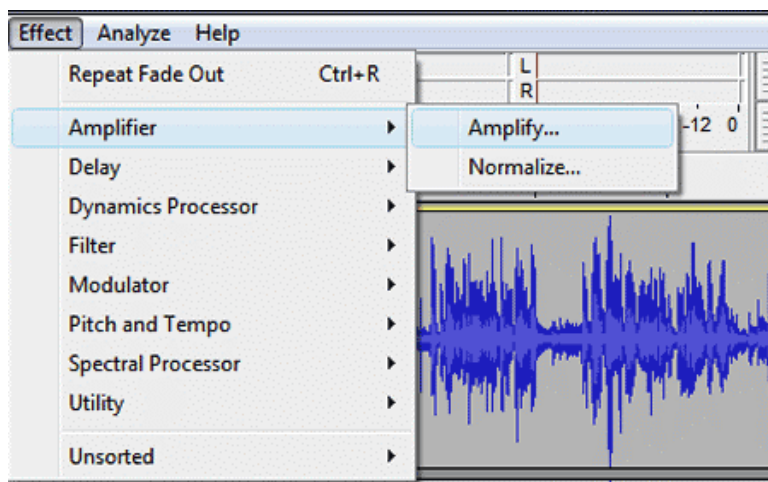


Figure 10.4 Amplify

Step Five:

Enter **-10** into the Amplification text field box and hit the OK button.

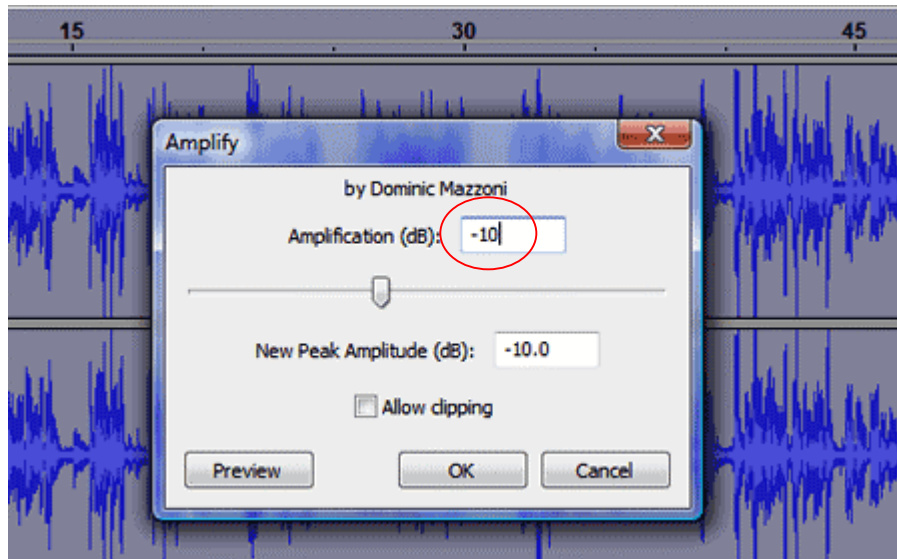


Figure 10.5 Amplify dialog box

The waveform now becomes smaller. Play your work to ensure you are happy with the new version. It should sound much softer now.

Step Six:

Save your project into the folder called "customised_audio".

In the next lesson we will learn how to record with Audacity.