

Davo's Community Lidarr Guide

Like TRaSH Guides, but Davo for Lidarr

This guide is primarily focused on FLAC quality with MP3-320 as a fallback. Since music files are much smaller than other media I prefer to grab FLAC quality (not 24-bit lossless). Lidarr is designed to follow artists and albums, not singles. If you prefer singles then Spotify or Apple Music is a better fit for you.

This guide also assumes you are familiar with the basics of the ARR apps and omits details covered in other guides, such as adding indexers or download clients.

Quality settings

Quality	Min	Preferred	Max
FLAC	0	895	1400
FLAC 24bit	0	895	1495

Filters out results that are single track rips for an entire album, such as FLAC/CUE files.

Recommended Naming Scheme

Ensure Advanced Settings are enabled and Rename Tracks & Replace Illegal Characters options are checked.

Standard Track Format

1 | {Album Title} {(Album Disambiguation)}/{Artist Name}_{Album Title}_{track:00}_{Tr

► Result: Venus Hum/Big Beautiful Sky/Venus Hum_Big Beautiful Sky_01_Hummingbirds.flac

Multi Disc Track Format

1 | {Album Title} {(Album Disambiguation)}/{Artist Name}_{Album Title}_{medium:00}-{t

► Result: The Smashing Pumpkins/Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness/The Smashing Pumpkins_Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness_01-01_Mellon

Collie and the Infinite Sadness.flac



Note: Without {{Album Disambiguation}} you run the risk of tracks for albums that have the same title (such as Weezer (Blue Album) and Weezer (Red Album)) all being dumped into the same album folder (Weezer). If there is no disambiguation associated with an album then Lidarr will use the standard folder name.

Artist Folder Format

1 | {Artist Name}

Track Naming

Rename Tracks
☒
Lidarr will use the existing file name if renaming is disabled

Replace Illegal Characters
☒
Replace illegal characters. If unchecked, Lidarr will remove them instead

Colon Replacement

Smart Replace
Dash or Space Dash depending on name

Standard Track Format

{Album Title} {{Album Disambiguation}}/{Artist Name}_{Album Title}_{track:00}_{Track Title}
?

Single Track: The Album Title (The Best Album)/The Artist Name_The Album Title_03_Track Title (1)

Multi Disc Track Format

{Album Title} {{Album Disambiguation}}/{Artist Name}_{Album Title}_{medium:00}-{track:00}_{Track Title}
?

Multi Disc Track: The Album Title (The Best Album)/The Artist Name_The Album Title_01-03_Track Title (1)

Artist Folder Format

{Artist Name}
?

Used when adding a new artist or moving an artist via the artist editor



Unless your file system supports reflinks and/or you are not using Lidarr to write metadata info then you should not enable hardlinks. Changing the metadata for your media files will corrupt the original seeding files.

Custom Formats

Below are some custom formats I have found to be helpful:

Preferred groups

Release groups that are consistently high quality and are properly named/tagged

```

1 | {
2 |   "name": "Preferred Groups",
3 |   "includeCustomFormatWhenRenaming": false,
4 |   "specifications": [
5 |     {
6 |

```

```

6      "name": "DeVOiD",
7      "implementation": "ReleaseGroupSpecification",
8      "negate": false,
9      "required": false,
10     "fields": {
11       "value": "\\bDeVOiD\\b"
12     }
13   },
14   {
15     "name": "PERFECT",
16     "implementation": "ReleaseGroupSpecification",
17     "negate": false,
18     "required": false,
19     "fields": {
20       "value": "\\bPERFECT\\b"
21     }
22   },
23   {
24     "name": "ENRiCH",
25     "implementation": "ReleaseGroupSpecification",
26     "negate": false,
27     "required": false,
28     "fields": {
29       "value": "\\bENRiCH\\b"
30     }
31   }
32 ]
33 }

```

CD

Tag releases that are from CD source

```

1  {
2    "name": "CD",
3    "includeCustomFormatWhenRenaming": false,
4    "specifications": [
5      {
6        "name": "CD",
7        "implementation": "ReleaseTitleSpecification",
8        "negate": false,
9        "required": false,
10       "fields": {
11         "value": "\\bCD\\b"
12       }
13     }
14   ]
15 }

```

```
15 |   ]  
    | }  
    | }
```

WEB

Tag releases that are from WEB source

```
1 | {  
2 |   "name": "WEB",  
3 |   "includeCustomFormatWhenRenaming": false,  
4 |   "specifications": [  
5 |     {  
6 |       "name": "WEB",  
7 |       "implementation": "ReleaseTitleSpecification",  
8 |       "negate": false,  
9 |       "required": false,  
10 |      "fields": {  
11 |        "value": "\\bWEB\\b"  
12 |      }  
13 |    }  
14 |  ]  
15 | }
```

Lossless

Tag releases that are lossless (flac/flac24), especially useful when using usenet to grab releases since file naming can be less than adequate

```
1 | {  
2 |   "name": "Lossless",  
3 |   "includeCustomFormatWhenRenaming": false,  
4 |   "specifications": [  
5 |     {  
6 |       "name": "Flac",  
7 |       "implementation": "ReleaseTitleSpecification",  
8 |       "negate": false,  
9 |       "required": false,  
10 |      "fields": {  
11 |        "value": "\\blossless\\b"  
12 |      }  
13 |    }  
14 |  ]  
15 | }
```

Vinyl


Tag releases that are from Vinyl source











```
1  {
2    "name": "Vinyl",
3    "includeCustomFormatWhenRenaming": false,
4    "specifications": [
5      {
6        "name": "Vinyl",
7        "implementation": "ReleaseTitleSpecification",
8        "negate": false,
9        "required": false,
10       "fields": {
11         "value": "\\bVinyl\\b"
12       }
13     }
14   ]
15 }
```

Profiles

Quality profiles - High Quality - check flac and mp3-320 and move them to the top

Qualities Qualities higher in the list are more preferred even if not checked. Qualities within the same group are equal. Only checked qualities are wanted

 **Edit Groups**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FLAC	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MP3-320	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lossless <div> FLAC 24bit WavPack APE ALAC </div>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	WAV	
<input type="checkbox"/>	High Quality Lossy <div> OGG Vorbis Q10 AAC-320 OGG Vorbis Q9 AAC-VBR MP3-VBR-V0 </div>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mid Quality Lossy <div> AAC-256 OGG Vorbis Q8 MP3-256 MP3-VBR-V2 OGG Vorbis Q7 </div>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low Quality Lossy <div> MP3-224 WMA AAC-192 OGG Vorbis Q6 MP3-192 </div>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor Quality Lossy <div> MP3-160 OGG Vorbis Q5 MP3-128 MP3-112 MP3-96 </div>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash Quality Lossy <div> MP3-80 MP3-64 MP3-56 MP3-48 MP3-40 MP3-32 MP3-24 MP3-16 MP3-8 </div>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	

Upgrades Allowed - check this box

Upgrade until - set this to Flac

Custom format scoring - This is very subjective. If you follow the table below it will require releases to include a minimum score of **1** in order to be grabbed, meaning it will need to meet at least one of the custom formats (except for vinyl) and will prefer CD source over WEB and will actively avoid vinyl releases.

Minimum Custom

Format Score Minimum custom format score allowed to download

Upgrade Until Custom

Format Score Once this custom format score is reached Lidarr will no longer grab album releases

Custom Formats Lidarr scores each release using the sum of scores for matching custom formats. If a new release would improve the score, at the same or better quality, then Lidarr will grab it.

Custom Format	Score
Preferred Groups	10
CD	2
Lossless	1
WEB	1
Vinyl	-5

Name

Upgrades Allowed ☒ If disabled qualities will not be upgraded

Upgrade Until

Once this quality is reached Lidarr will no longer download albums

Metadata Profiles

This is another setting that is more personal preference. If you want to ensure you don't miss any releases check all boxes and name the profile **Any**. My personal metadata profile is named **Standard** and I have the following options checked:

Edit Metadata Profile

Name

Standard

Primary Types

☒ Album

☐ Broadcast

☒ EP

☐ Other

☒ Single

Secondary Types

☒ Studio

☐ Spokenword

☒ Soundtrack

☒ Remix

☐ Mixtape/Street

☐ Live

☐ Interview

☒ DJ-mix

☐ Demo

☒ Compilation

☐ Audio drama

Write Metadata to Audio Files

Tag Audio Files with Metadata Never ▼

Selecting 'All files' will alter existing files when they are imported.
[More Info](#)

Scrub Existing Tags ☐ Remove existing tags from files, leaving only those added by Lidarr.

This minimizes the number of releases that are added for an artist but I can switch to the **Any** profile if needed to add specific releases that are not included in the above release types.



Release types are determined by Musicbrainz so if you can't find a specific release in Lidarr check the release type in Musicbrainz and ensure that release type is enabled in your metadata profile for that specific artist.



Nine times out of ten when a release can't be found in Lidarr it's because the release type is set to **unknown** in Musicbrainz. Lidarr cannot add releases that are listed as **unknown**

Metadata

As noted previously in the guide, if you are hardlinking music torrents then Tag Audio Files with Metadata needs to be set to Never and Scrub Existing Tags should be unchecked. If you are not hardlinking music torrents then this is personal preference.

Write Metadata to Audio Files

Tag Audio Files with Metadata

Never

Selecting 'All files' will alter existing files when they are imported.

[More Info](#)

Scrub Existing Tags

☐

Remove existing tags from files, leaving only those added by Lidarr.

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