



Sound Ideas' Metadigger

Free Metadata Management Software



MetaDigger Free Metadata Management Software is an easy to use program designed to display, search and export metadata details from broadcast wav, AIF and mp3 sound effects audio files.

MetaDigger Features:

- Open & display metadata embedded in any set of digital broadcast wav, AIF or mp3 files
- Search embedded metadata in broadcast wav, AIF or mp3
- Listen to any wav, AIF or mp3 file by using the audition feature
- Create custom work folders or projects from search
- Export metadata information from your databases
- Edit database records to save additional search keywords, notes and ratings

Sound Ideas

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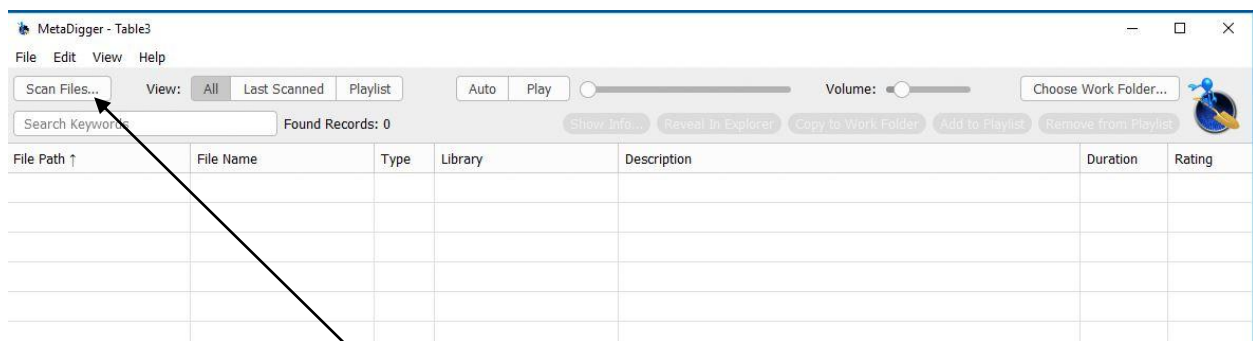
HOW TO USE THE SOUND IDEAS METADIGGER PROGRAM

The Sound Ideas MetaDigger program will help you find and work with digital sound effects and music audio files, in both broadcast wav, AIF and mp3 formats.

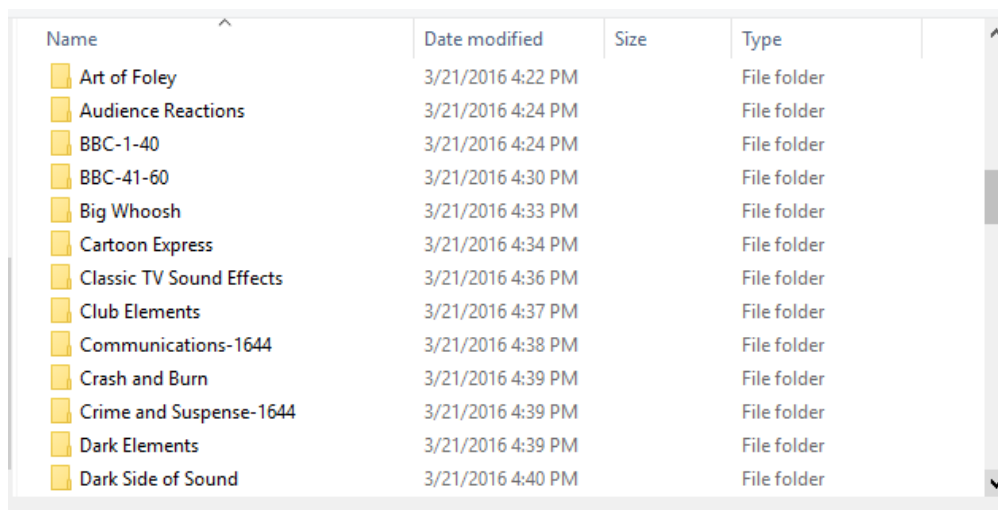
A QUICK START FOR QUICK STUDIES

You can drag and drop individual files, folders, or entire drives (one at a time) onto the program to scan them into the currently open Table.

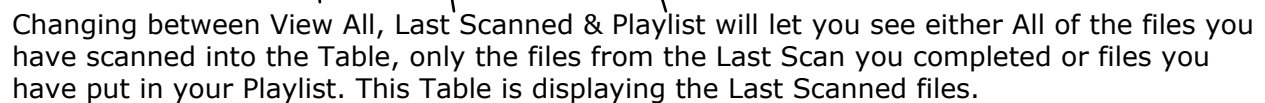
When you first open MetaDigger you get blank canvas ready to scan your audio files and load in their metadata. The blank canvas looks like this:



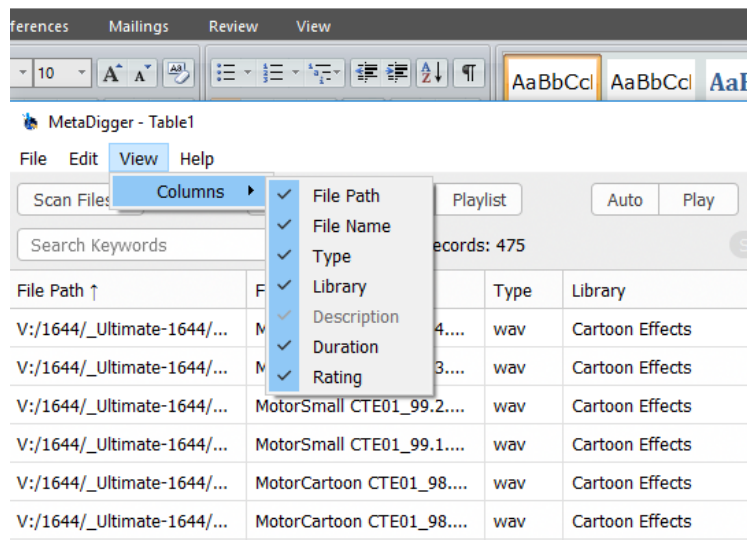
To get started, use the Scan Files button to select the directory you want to work with.



We picked 1 of the CDs from Cartoon Express. The scanning window shows the total number of files it will scan, a progress bar, and a Cancel button in case you need to stop the scan.

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You can select the data columns that you want to display by using the View – Columns feature. The columns can be re-ordered by selecting a column and dragging it across to a new location. Click a column header to sort the table by that column: clicking once puts the column in ascending order, clicking again puts the column in descending order.

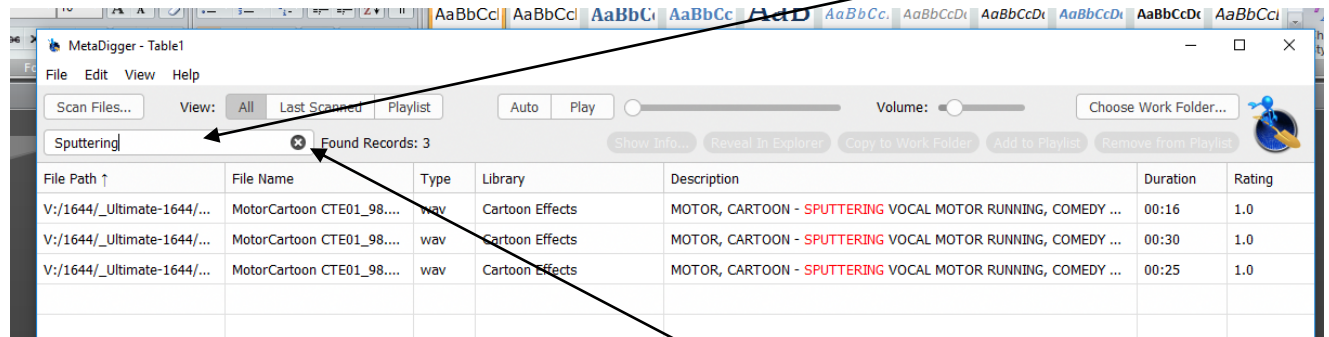


The available columns include:

- File Path
- File Name
- Type
- Library
- Description
- Duration
- Rating

SEARCHING

With the metadata loaded, you can search for terms. We have searched for "Sputtering" by typing in the Search Keywords field:



Files that match your search term automatically display - with the matched term highlighted in **red**.

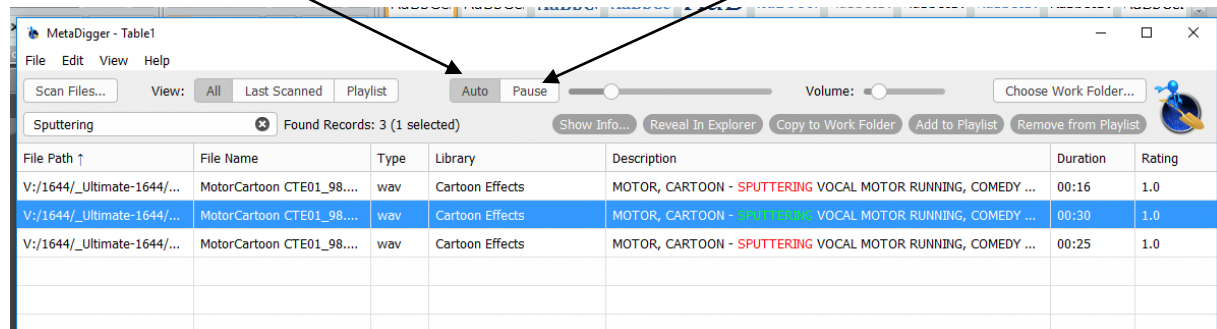
Click on the X to remove your search term and see all records again.

You can use an exclamation mark to exclude words from the search. For instance, to search for wind and not have all the windows in the database show up, enter **wind !window** in the Search Keywords field. Entering **dog bark !large** will find eliminate records with the word "large" in the description.

AUDITIONING

There are a couple of ways to listen to the audio files. To play audio, click a row in the database to highlight it then press the space bar or click Play. PLAY changes to PAUSE so you can stop the playback.

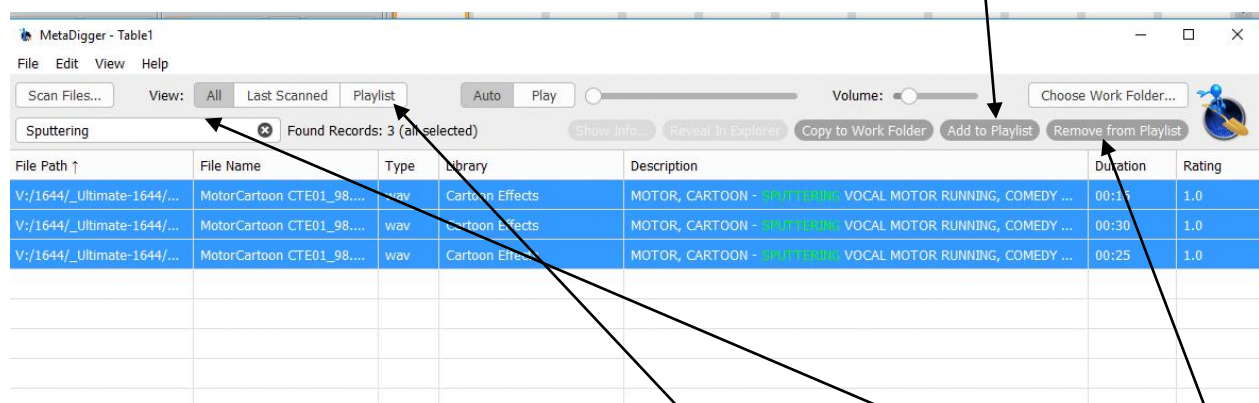
When Auto is on the sound will play as soon as you click on the record without having to press the Space Bar and you can use the up and down arrows on your keyboard to play through all the displayed files.



The display shows you how far you have progressed through the audio and the Volume control can be dragged right to increase the volume and left to decrease the volume.

ADDING FILES TO A PLAYLIST

As you find files that you might want to work with, you can add them to a playlist. Highlight the files you want to add to the playlist and click on the labeled button.



To activate the Playlist, click on the labeled button. You can move back and forth from the playlist to the complete list of scanned files by click on the ALL button.

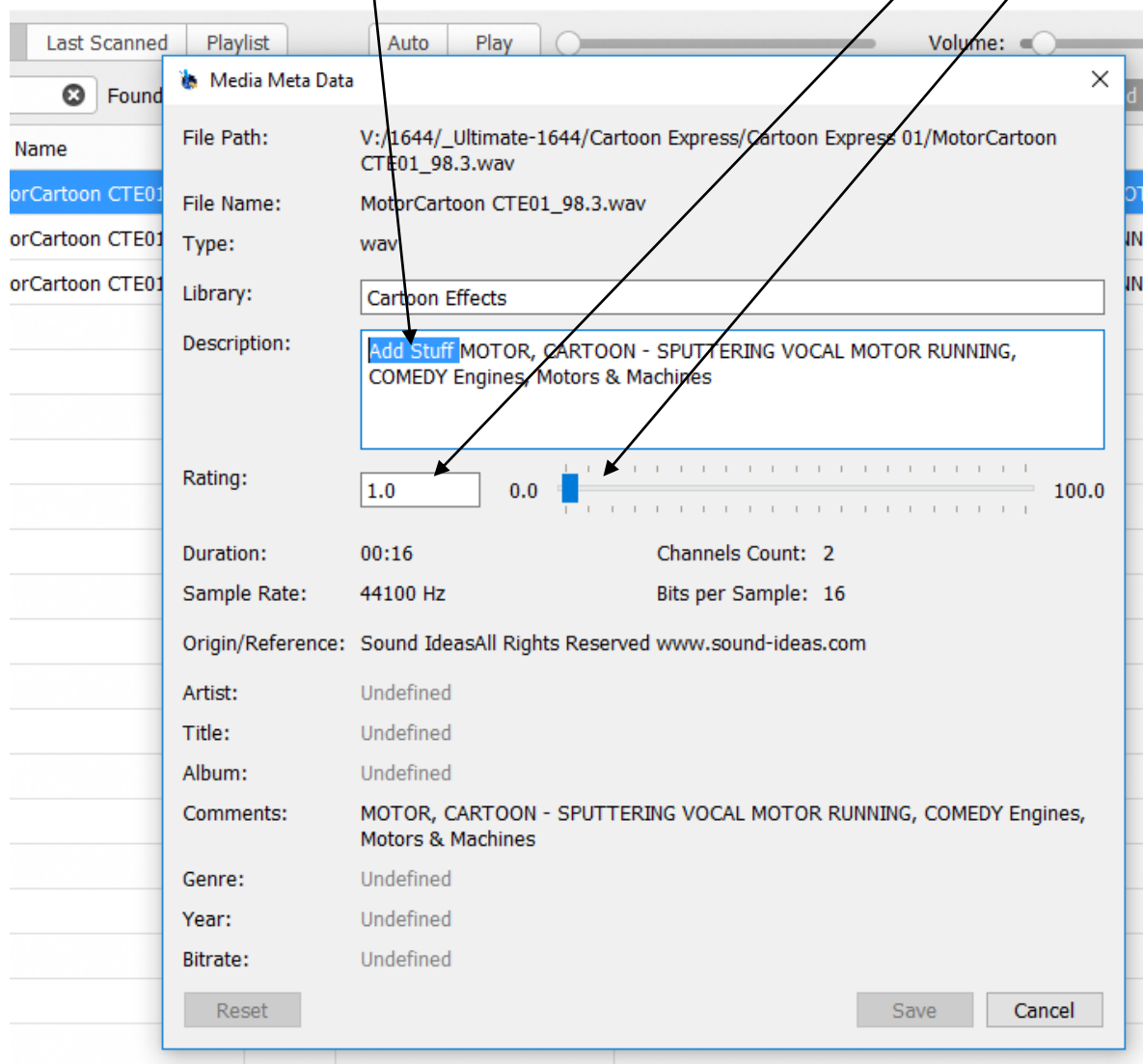
To remove files from the Playlist, highlight the records to remove and hit the labeled button.

On PCs a Dot appears at the far right side of the Table record to show that the sound is in the playlist. On MACs a Star appears at the far right side of the Table record to show that the sound is in the playlist.

VIEWING AND EDITING DATABASE INFO

With a record highlighted you can double-click the record or click the Show Info button to zero in on all available information for the record.

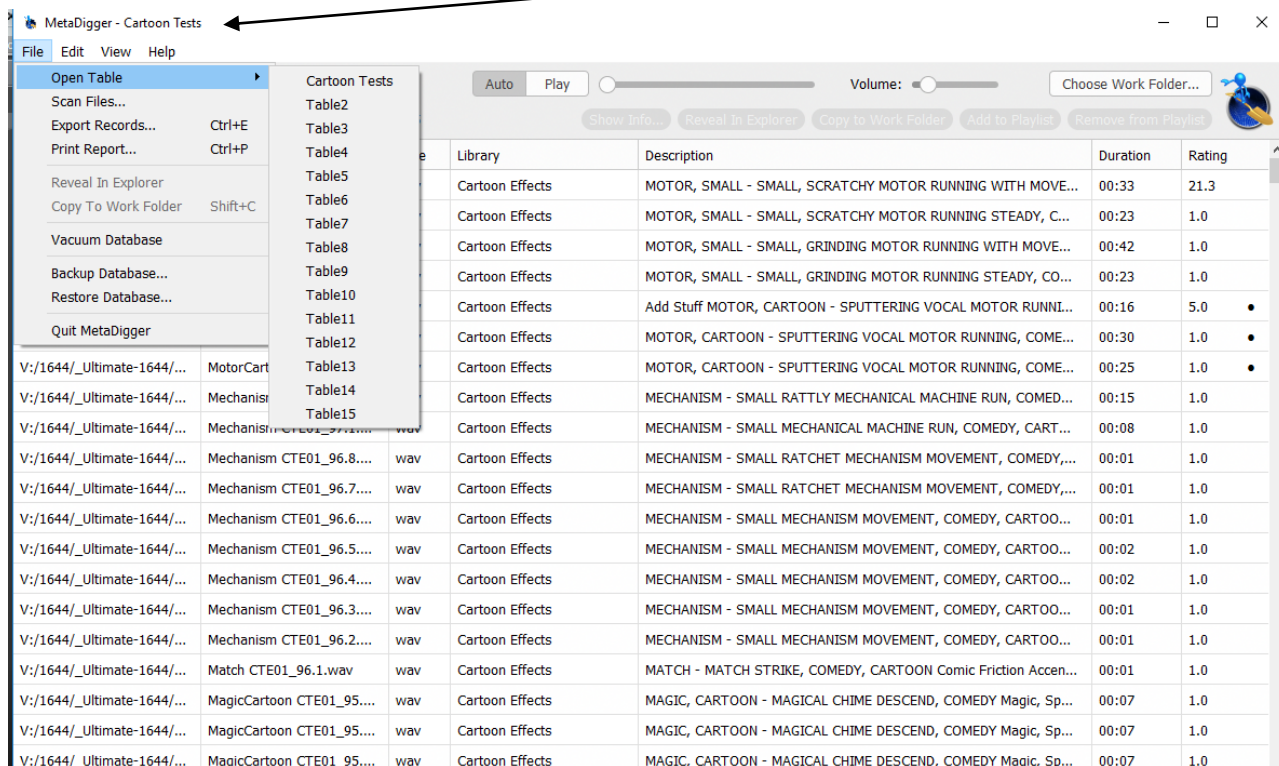
You can click into the description field to add details that you can use to identify projects or anything else you want. You can also change the rating by clicking into that field or sliding the ratings bar along between 0 and 100. The rating for the record can also be changed in the table with the "-" and "+" keys on the keyboard.



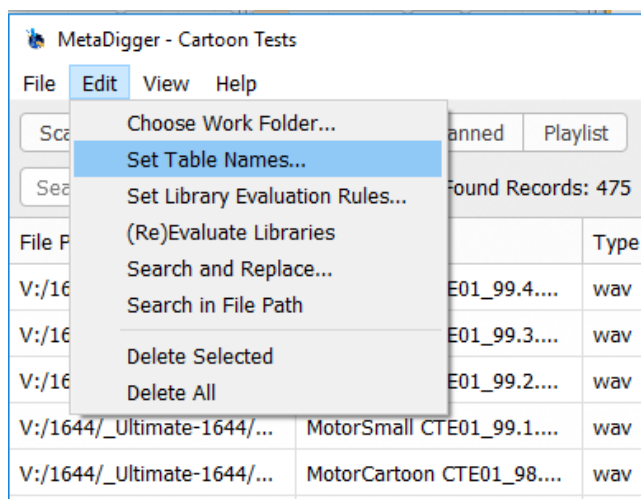
Changes made here are only stored in the database and are not written into the files. But in the future, you can search on any terms that you add to the Descriptions.

USING TABLES

There are 15 separate Tables for you to use. To open a table, click on File – Open Table and select the table you want to open from the list. The name of the Table you have opened appears at the top of the open page so that you know which Table is open.



The tables come “numbered” but you can rename the tables by clicking on Edit – Set Table Names.



Click in to the fields to edit the table names.

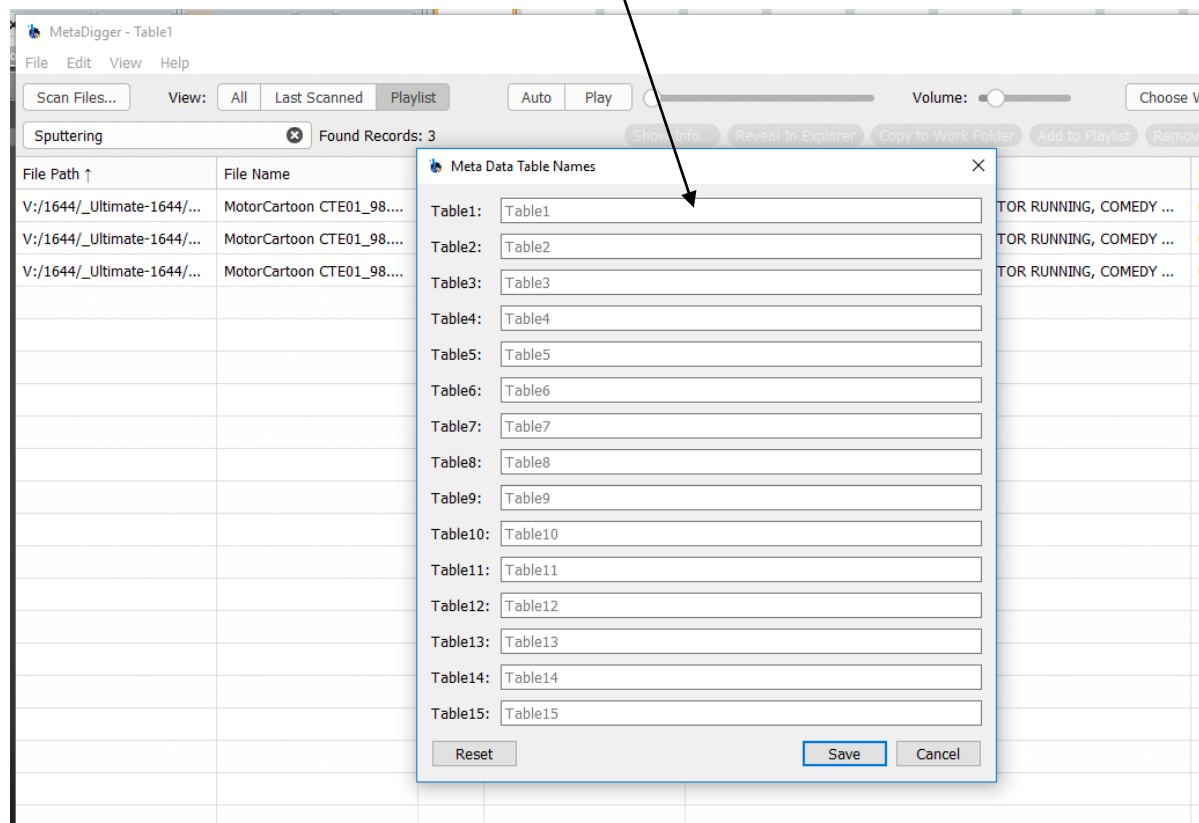
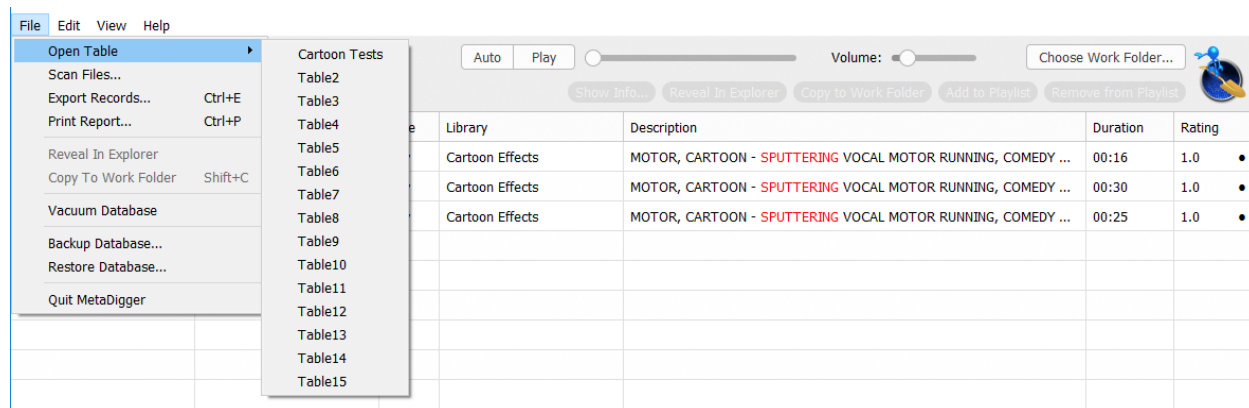


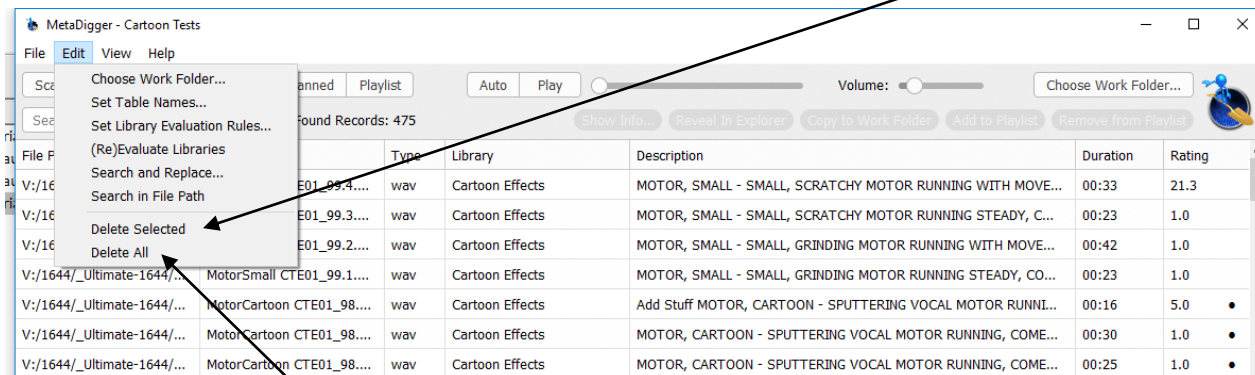
Table 1 has been renamed "Cartoon Tests".



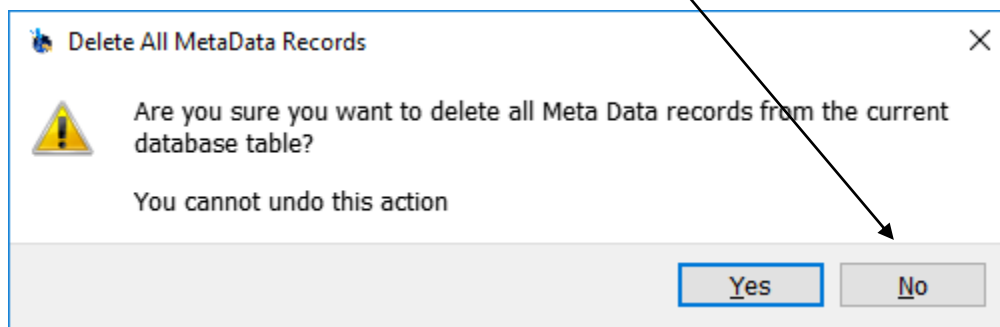
Tables can be renamed at any time.

DELETING RECORDS

You can delete a single record or several records (from a Table or a Playlist) by highlighting and hitting Edit - Delete or Right Click - Delete.

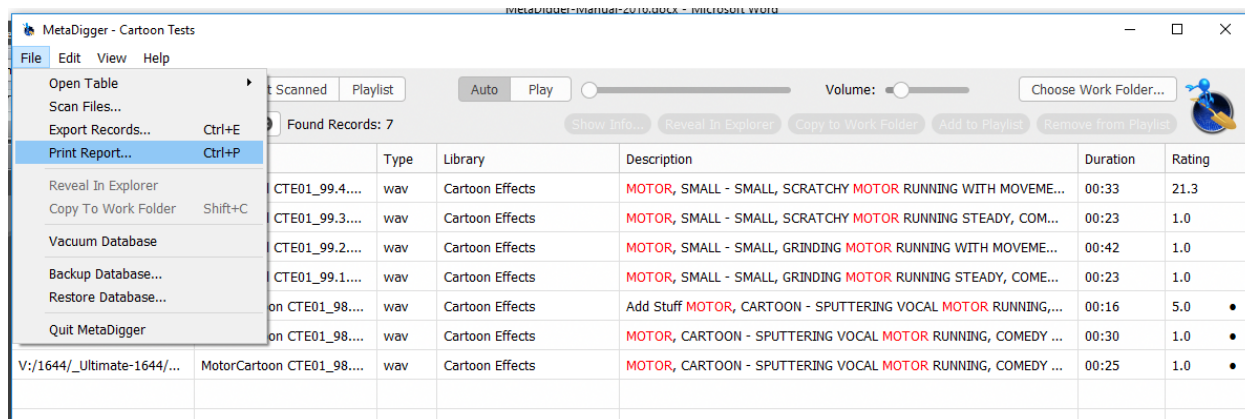


If you select the Delete All option, it will delete all the records in the current table whether you have them selected or not. If you have created a backup of the data (see details further on) you can Restore it – if not, you will have to scan your files again. You will have an option to stop the Delete All process.



PRINTING REPORTS

Start to print a report from File – Print Report:

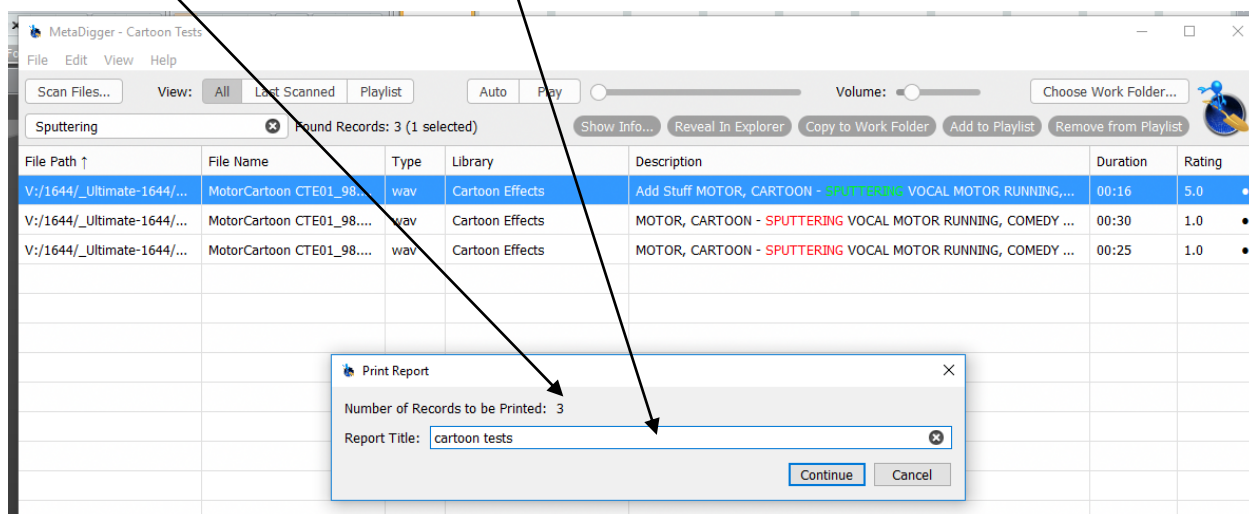


Printed reports are based on the records showing in the scanned database you are looking at:

- If you are looking at a complete Table that contains 475 records – your printout will contain all 475 records.
- If you have searched on a keyword within your Table, only the search results will be in your printout.
- If you are working with a Playlist, only the contents of the Playlist will be in your printout.

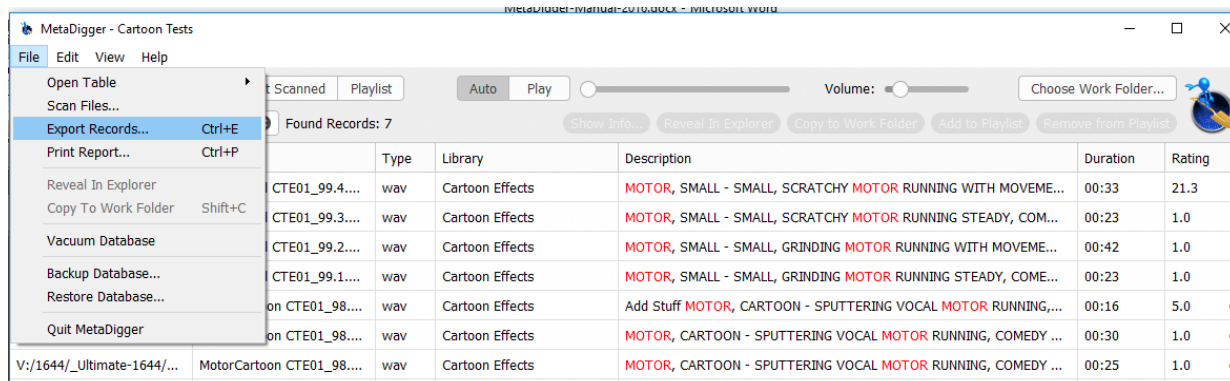
You will be asked to give your print report a title and you will be shown the number of records that will be printed.

The printout will number the records and display File Name, Description, and Duration.



EXPORTING DATA

Start to export data from File – Export Records



Exported Records are based on the records showing in the scanned database you are looking at:

- If you are looking at a complete Table that contains 475 records – your export will contain all 475 records.
- If you have searched on a keyword within your Table, only the search results will be in your export.
- If you are working with a Playlist, only the contents of the Playlist will be in your export.

You can choose from the following fields to include in the export. Clicking on the ALL Fields box will select all the fields (the default) and remove all the fields – which will let you select only the data fields you want in your export.

Export Meta Data

Fields to Export:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ID	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Library	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample Rate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Artist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Genre
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File Path	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Description	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Channels Count	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Year
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File Name	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bits Per Sample	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Album	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bittate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rating	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Origin Reference	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALL Fields

File Name: Choose

Continue Cancel

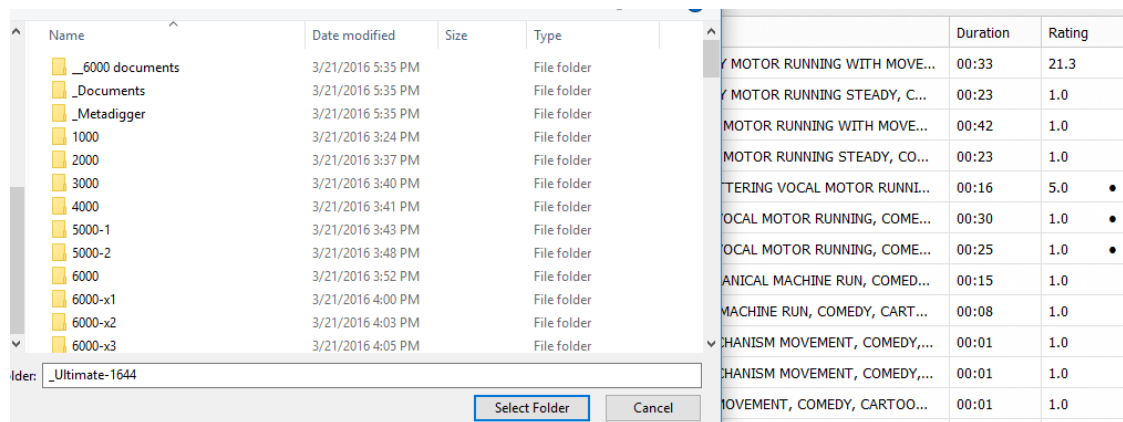
The Choose button let's you browse to select the location to save the exported file and enter the filename. The data is exported as a tab delimited file. Export as a txt file and open in a program like Excel.

This is an example of an export file that has been opened in Excel

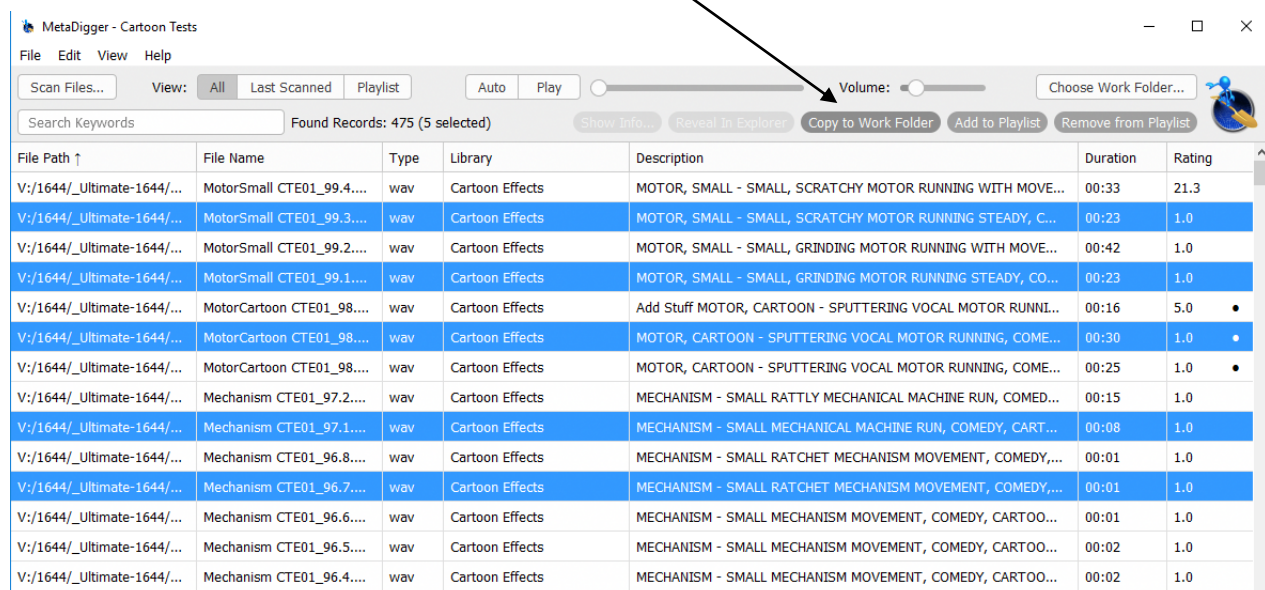
ID	filePath	fileName	fileType	library	description
486	V:/1644/_Ultimate-1644/Cartoon Express/Cartoon Express 01/MotorCartoon CTE01_98.3.wav	MotorCartoon CTE01_98.3.wav	wav	Cartoon Effects	Add Stuff MOTOR, CARTOON - SPUTTERING VOCAL MOTOR RUNNING, COMEDY Engines, Moto
488	V:/1644/_Ultimate-1644/Cartoon Express/Cartoon Express 01/MotorCartoon CTE01_98.2.wav	MotorCartoon CTE01_98.2.wav	wav	Cartoon Effects	MOTOR, CARTOON - SPUTTERING VOCAL MOTOR RUNNING, COMEDY Engines, Motors & Mach
489	V:/1644/_Ultimate-1644/Cartoon Express/Cartoon Express 01/MotorCartoon CTE01_98.1.wav	MotorCartoon CTE01_98.1.wav	wav	Cartoon Effects	MOTOR, CARTOON - SPUTTERING VOCAL MOTOR RUNNING, COMEDY Engines, Motors & Mach

SELECTING WORK FOLDERS AND COPYING FILES TO A WORK ENVIRONMENT

When you find a sound you like you can copy it to a work folder. It is better to open and edit this copy rather than risk changing the original file. First create an empty folder on your local hard drive, and then use the Choose Work Folder Button to set that folder as the default copy destination.



MetaDigger will copy selected files to the work folder you have identified. Highlight the files you want to copy and click on the Copy to Work Folder button or right click and choose Copy To Work Folder or just hit Shift-C on the keyboard. The original files stay in place and copies are made for you to edit.



MORE ADVANCED FEATURES

FILE MENU ITEMS

REVEAL IN EXPLORER

When you highlight a record and select FILE – Reveal in Explorer you open up the directory location where the original file is stored.

REBUILD DATABASE

If you have done a lot of adding and deleting to your data, you might want to use this cleanup feature. Keep in mind that it may take a while depending on how many records you have scanned with MetaDigger.

BACKUP DATABASE

Allows you to create a backup of the entire database. This should be done regularly.

RESTORE DATABASE

Allows you to restore a backup of the entire database. This will overwrite everything in all tables of the current database.

EDIT MENU ITEMS

SET LIBRARY EVALUATION RULES

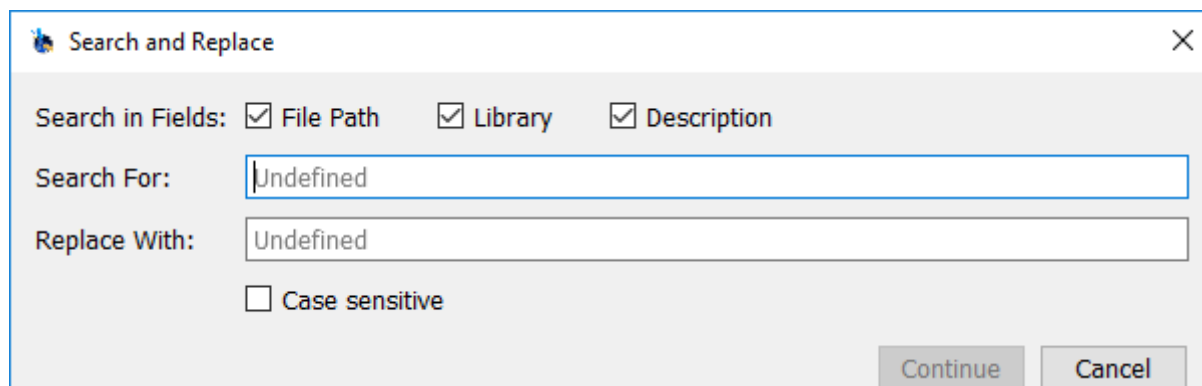
These rules try to identify the library name of each scanned file. When there is a match, the name is put into the Library field in the Table. Not all files can be identified this way; however the Library field can be edited manually by clicking Show Info or by using Search and Replace. Email us for codes for new libraries.

RE(EVALUATE) LIBRARIES

After adding new rules, run this to have the program go through the entire table and try to identify the Libraries again.

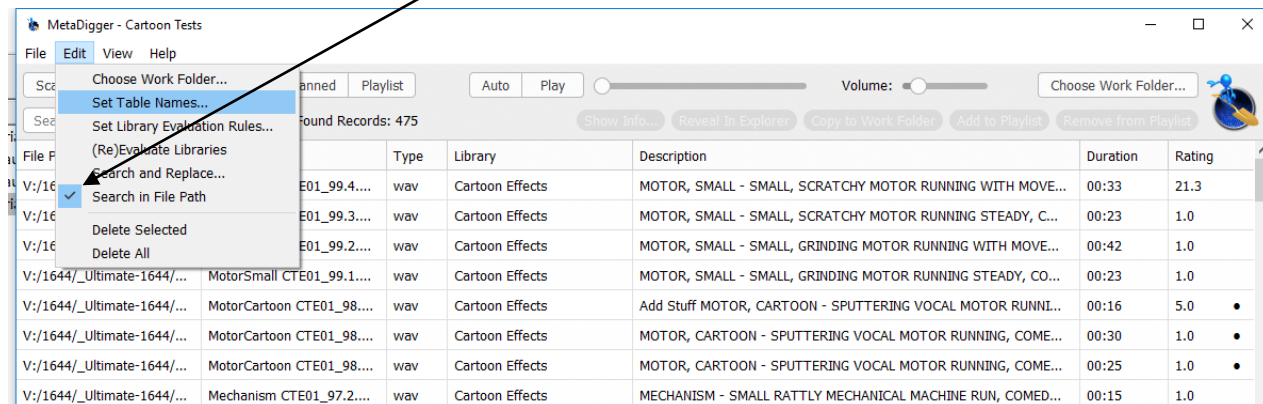
SEARCH AND REPLACE

Systems change and drives can switch about. If you have already scanned a drive and it is now identified differently, you can change the MetaDigger data to replace the drive ID so you don't have to scan the files again. You can also replace the Library Name and elements in the description.



SEARCH IN FILE PATH

You can set this feature "on" and then when you search, MetaDigger will search on the complete File Path and File Name for search matches. The default for this feature is "off". Click to turn the feature on (the checkmark appears) and click to turn it off.



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- Create custom work folders or projects from search
- Export metadata information from your databases
- Edit database records to save additional search keywords, notes and ratings

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