

Noise Removal...

This effect is ideal for removing constant background noise such as fans, tape noise, or hums. It will not work very well for removing talking or music in the background.

Removing noise is a two-step process. In the first step, you select a portion of your sound which contains all noise and no signal, in other words, select the part that's silent except for the noise. Then choose **Noise Removal...** from the Effect menu and click Get Profile. Audacity learns from this selection what the noise sounds like, so it knows what to filter out later.

Then, select all of the audio where you want the noise removed from and choose **Noise Removal...** again. This time, click the "Remove Noise" button. It may take a few seconds or longer depending on how much you selected.

If too much or not enough noise was removed, you can **Undo** (from the Edit menu) and try **Noise Removal...** again with a different noise removal level. You don't have to get a new noise profile again if you think the first one was fine.

Removing noise usually results in some distortion. This is normal and there's virtually nothing you can do about it. When there's only a little bit of noise, and the signal (i.e. the voice or the music or whatever) is much louder than the noise, this effect works well and there's very little audible distortion. But when the noise is very loud, when the noise is variable, or when the signal is not much louder than the noise, then the result is often too distorted.

Future versions of Audacity may include improved versions of this effect.