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## Introduction and Requirements

Thank you for downloading the Cortex Database Creation Manager. We are confident that the Cortex platform of products will not only make your life easier through the use of the latest technological advancements in cross-platform connectivity and sound reproduction but will raise the bar for DJ and pro audio products. Using the Cortex Database Creation Manager (DBC), preparing storage devices for use with any Cortex Digital Music Controller will be efficient and concise. We recommend using this software when preparing drives of any type larger than 5 gigs, for all NTFS devices, and for preparing DVD and CD compilations for use with your Cortex Digital Music Controller.

### System Requirements

Microsoft Windows XP or Vista/Mac OSX 10.4 Operating System  
Pentium III 700 MHz or equivalent processor, MAC G4  
128 mb RAM  
10 gigs free hard drive space (for creating DVD compilations)  
Cortex unit  
External USB storage device  
(Such as an external hard drive, USB flash drive, or MP3 player)

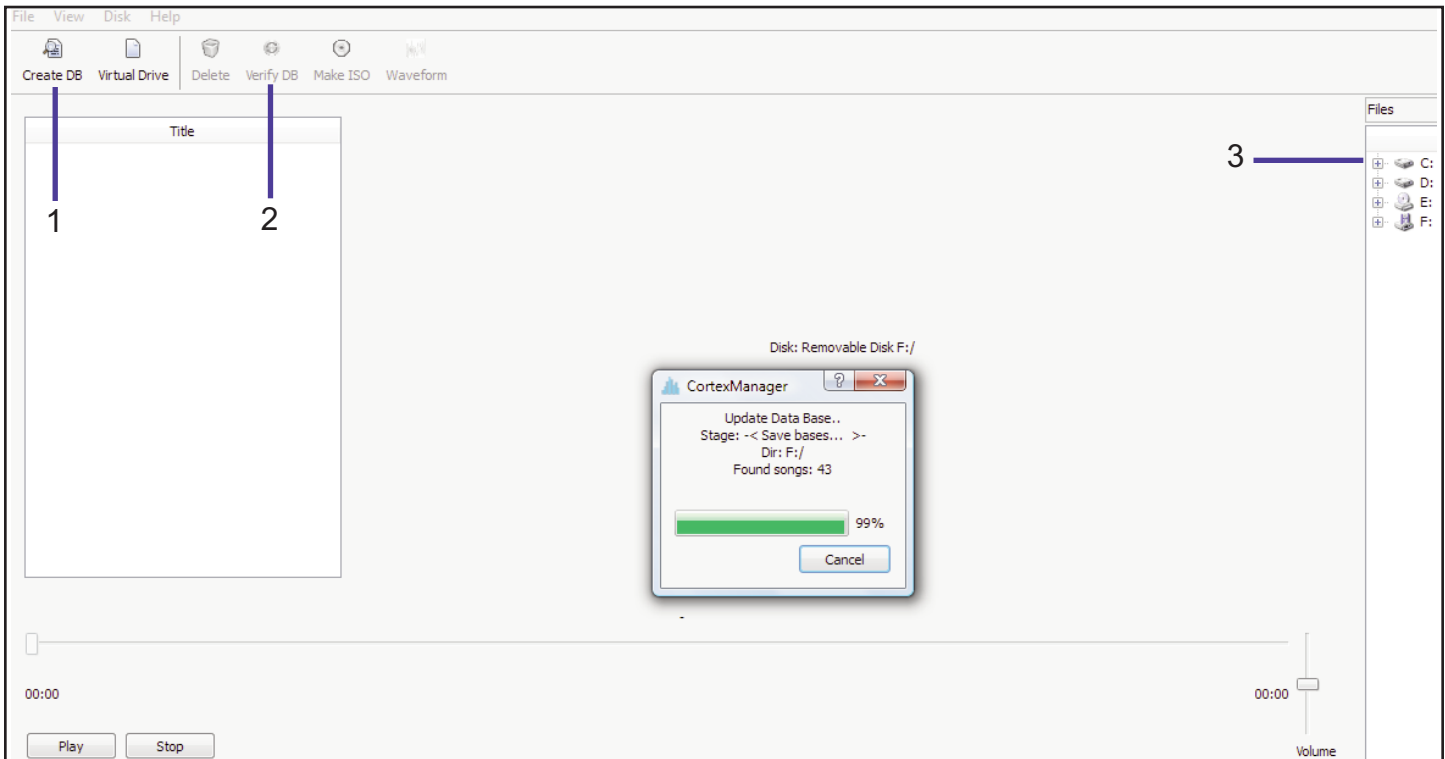
### Compatible Storage Devices

The HDC-1000 (and all Cortex products) are designed to interface with all driverless USB devices. This means that if the product does not require proprietary driver software and can be accessed natively by a PC or Macintosh computer, it should be compatible with the Cortex. Note that just because the product works on a computer without using an included driver disk, that does not mean that it is truly driverless. In theory (but sometimes not in practice), any device that doesn't require a driver should work just fine with Cortex products. However, varying specifications of certain products (primarily USB flash memory) sometimes might present an incompatibility issue. As one might imagine, testing every USB peripheral on the market would be a lifelong quest, and the introduction of new peripherals on the daily basis would make it even more difficult. If you are having trouble with a specific peripheral, please find the compatibility advisory section of our website, and let us know! In the vast majority of cases, support can be added for sub-standard units that deviate from typical specifications.

### Software Updates

All future software updates will be available from the Cortex website, at <http://www.cortex-pro.com>. Please check our site periodically for Firmware Upgrades for your Cortex unit, DBC Software updates, as well as exciting new Cortex products.

## Creating a database for the first time



Prior to using each USB device with the Cortex unit, it will be necessary to use the DBC Manager to create the database information on each USB device. Creating a database (or indexing, as it will be referred to in this document) is required in order to allow your Cortex unit to execute searches based on a chosen criteria. Alternatively, indexing can be performed using only your Cortex unit, but using the DBC Manager will take advantage of the resources of a PC - allowing you to perform this process hundreds of times faster. Remember that your Cortex unit is optimized specifically for streaming audio manipulation and varies greatly from the capabilities of a personal computer.

The first step, as illustrated above, is to create a database for each of your storage devices (including the ones installed in your PC). This allows you to easily see the tracks stored on all drives, so that they can quickly be dragged-and-dropped to the devices that you plan to use with your Cortex unit. It is only necessary to index the drives that have media files (MP3, WAV) on them. Before starting the procedure, it will be necessary to connect the external USB storage devices that you plan on using with the Cortex unit to your PC. Note that read-only devices (such as CD and DVD-ROM drives) cannot be written to in this manner.

Step 1: Click on the icon labeled 'Create DB' (1)

Note-If you are connecting a drive that you have added music to, click on 'Verify DB' (2) to update your unit. This is further explained on the next page .

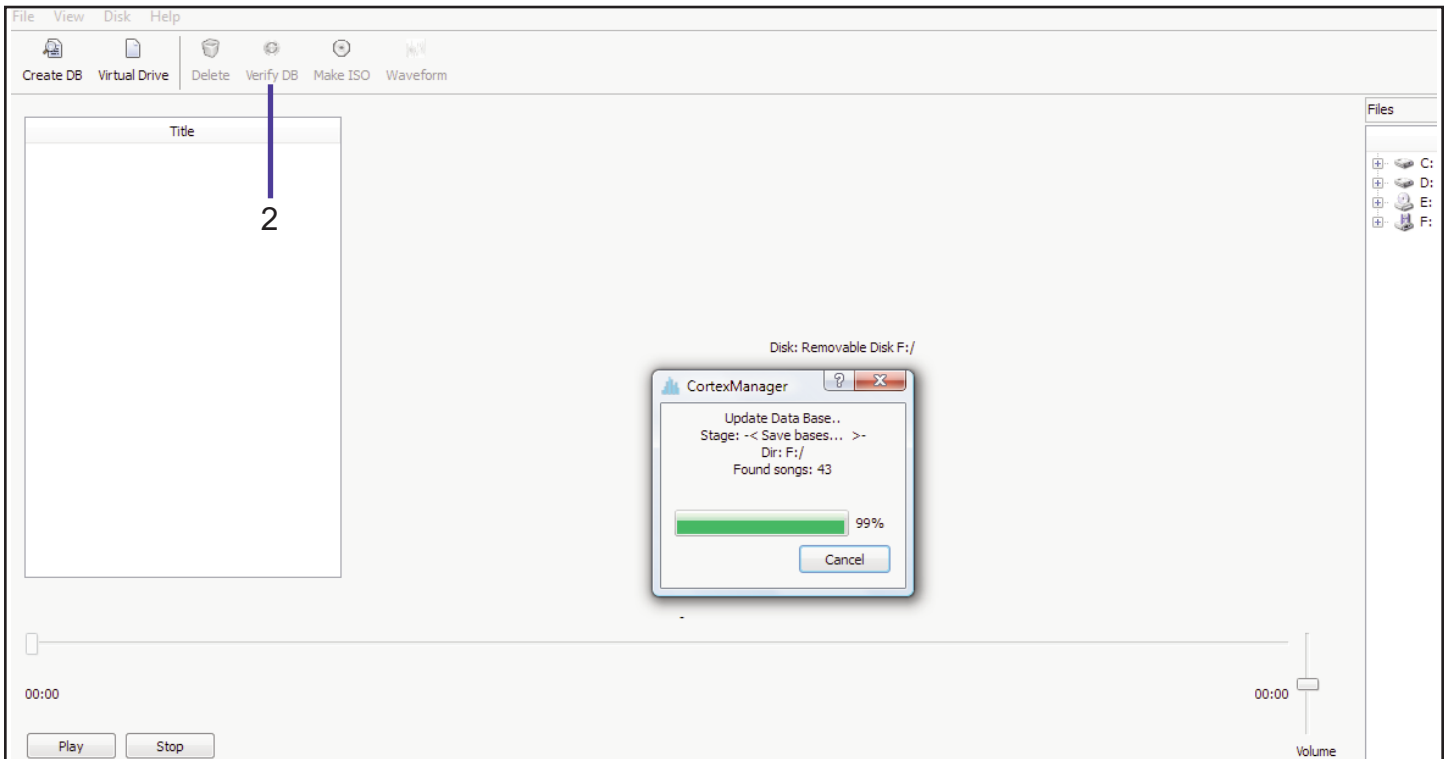
Step 2: Select the drive letter that you wish to index. If your media files are stored only in a certain directory (for instance, 'My Music,') then open the directory tree by clicking on the + symbol, and select only the desired directory.

Step 3: Click 'OK' to begin the process. It may take a few minutes depending on the size of your music collection.

Step 4: Repeat this procedure for each storage device that either has media files on it or will be used with your Cortex unit.

From this point on, if you want to add more songs to a device, simply select your target device you wish to drag from on the right hand side of the screen (3), and simply drag and drop songs from the device to your Cortex databased storage device.

## Verifying a Database

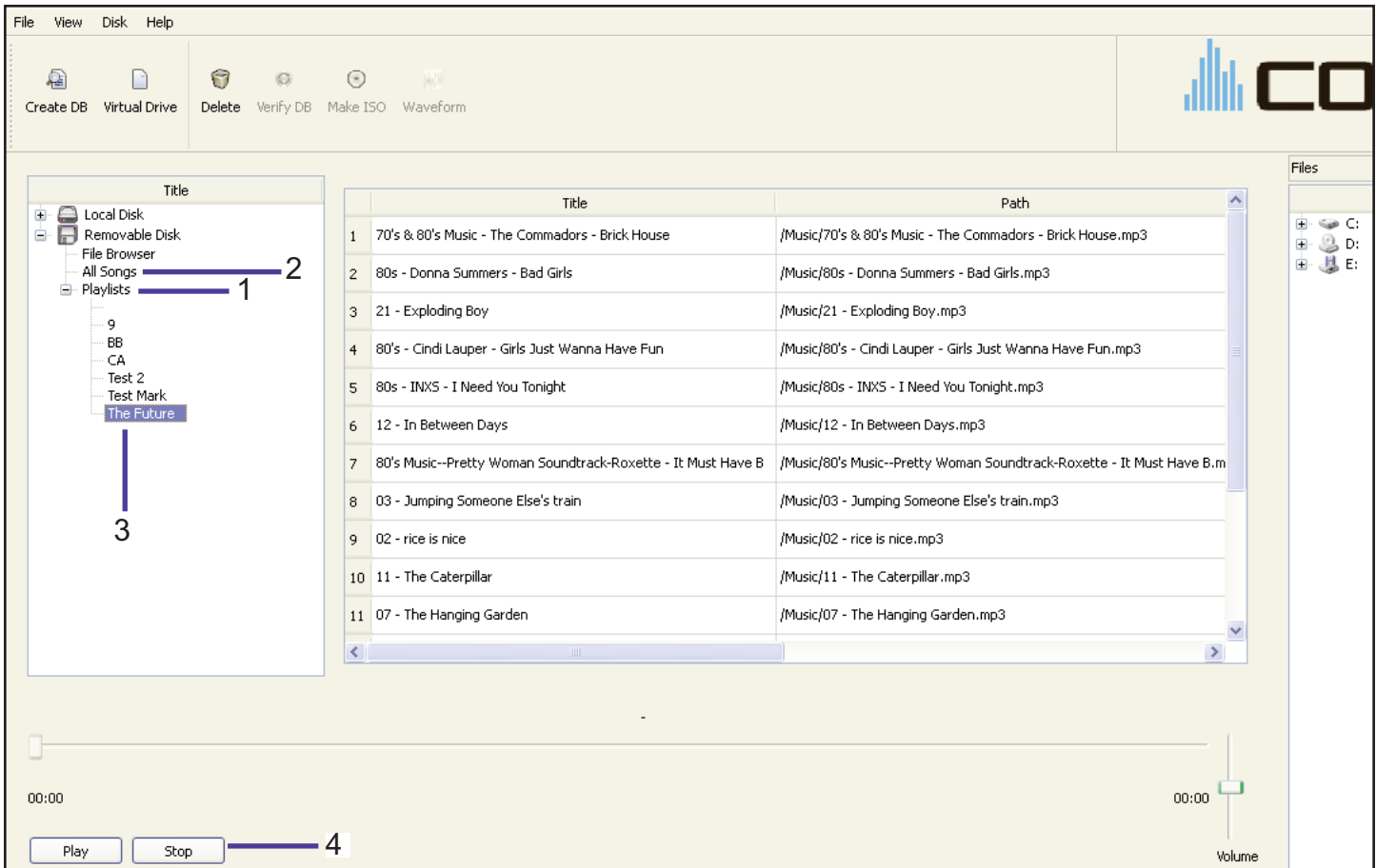


Sometimes, there may be instances where you don't have access to the Cortex DBC Manager, but yet you still need to copy files to your storage device. For instance, say you are visiting with a friend, and he gives you a collection of music he has written, which you want to play the next time you have a gig. Since the database hasn't been updated, your Cortex unit will not be able to search to find the new titles you have loaded onto your storage device. This is a prime example of when to use the Verification Function of the DBC Manager, once you again have access to the DBC Manager. Using the Verification Function in this manner can also allow users to manage their music collection using whatever software applications they wish. Users choosing to manage their collections using other software must remember to load the DBC Manager and click 'Verify' when there have been any changes made to their external USB storage device(s).

**Step 1:** Single click on the name of the device you wish to verify. It will become highlighted, as shown in the diagram.

**Step 2::** Click on 'Verify DB.' The software will examine the databases and automatically update anything that needs to be indexed.

## Creating a Playlist and Playing Music



Now that you have created a database, you are ready to sort your music into playlists. This will allow you to be able to browse through your music more quickly, as well as prepare “sets” for the night. Think of the playlists as virtual record crates, containing the music that you wish to have at hand for a gig.

To create a Playlist and add songs, please perform the following steps-

Step 1: Select the 'Playlist' option on your target device by pressing the '+' symbol next to the drive and clicking on 'Playlist'

Step 2: Right Click on the 'Playlist' option and select the option 'Create Playlist'. This will create an unnamed playlist. To rename this playlist, select it and right click to select the option 'Rename Playlist'.

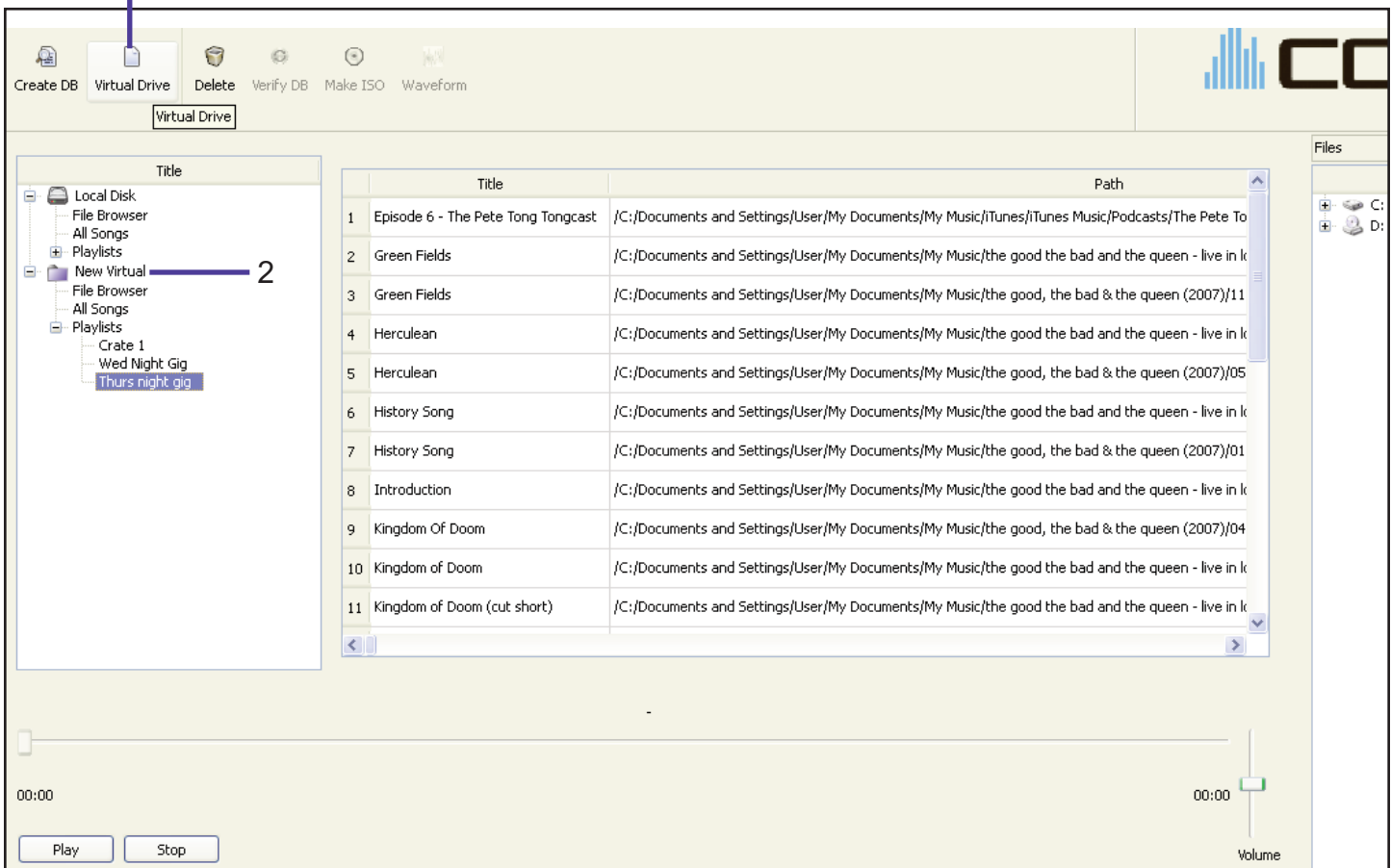
Step 3. Select the songs you wish to copy by clicking and dragging them over to the Playlist you have created. You may hold the Shift key while clicking on the left mouse key to select any number of contiguous files; you may alternatively hold down the Ctrl key to select multiple files that are not contiguous.

-Note-You may click on any one of the ID3 tag fields above the field you wish to sort by (Artist, Title, etc) to sort your songs out in a way that makes finding song titles easier.

Step 4 If you wish to audition files before you load them into a playlist, select the song with the left mouse key and click on the play button (4), located on the bottom left hand of the screen.

Step 5: Repeat the procedure until you have copied all desired file(s) and folder(s).

## Creating a Database for CD/DVD Compilations



A useful feature of the Cortex DBC Manager software is the ability to create CD/DVD compilations that can be used by your Cortex unit (in conjunction with a compatible USB CD/DVD-ROM drive). The purpose of using the DBC Manager to accomplish this task is simply to create the databases required to search through these compilations via your Cortex unit. If a compilation is not assembled in this fashion illustrated below, the user will have the option to use the Cortex unit to create a temporary database (will not be saved when the power is shut down), but due to the extremely slow access time of optical drives, it might take an excessively long period of time. Using the DBC Manager allows the database information to be written to the target CD or DVD, where it can be loaded into the Cortex unit within seconds.

**Step 1:** Click the 'Virtual Drive' icon on the top of the window. Notice that this will create a folder called 'New Virtual.'

**Step 2:** Click on the '+' box next to 'New Virtual'.

**Step 3:** Find the songs or files on your other storage devices that you wish to add to the compilation. You may drag the files from either the All Songs option, or from the Files box (found on the lower portion of the screen).

**Step 4:** Drag and drop the songs (or group of songs) to the 'File Browser' or 'All Songs' option listed underneath the 'New Virtual'. They will be copied, not moved. After the DBC Manager finishes copying, it will immediately update the database found on the target Virtual Drive.

**Step 5:** Repeat the procedure until you have copied all desired songs.

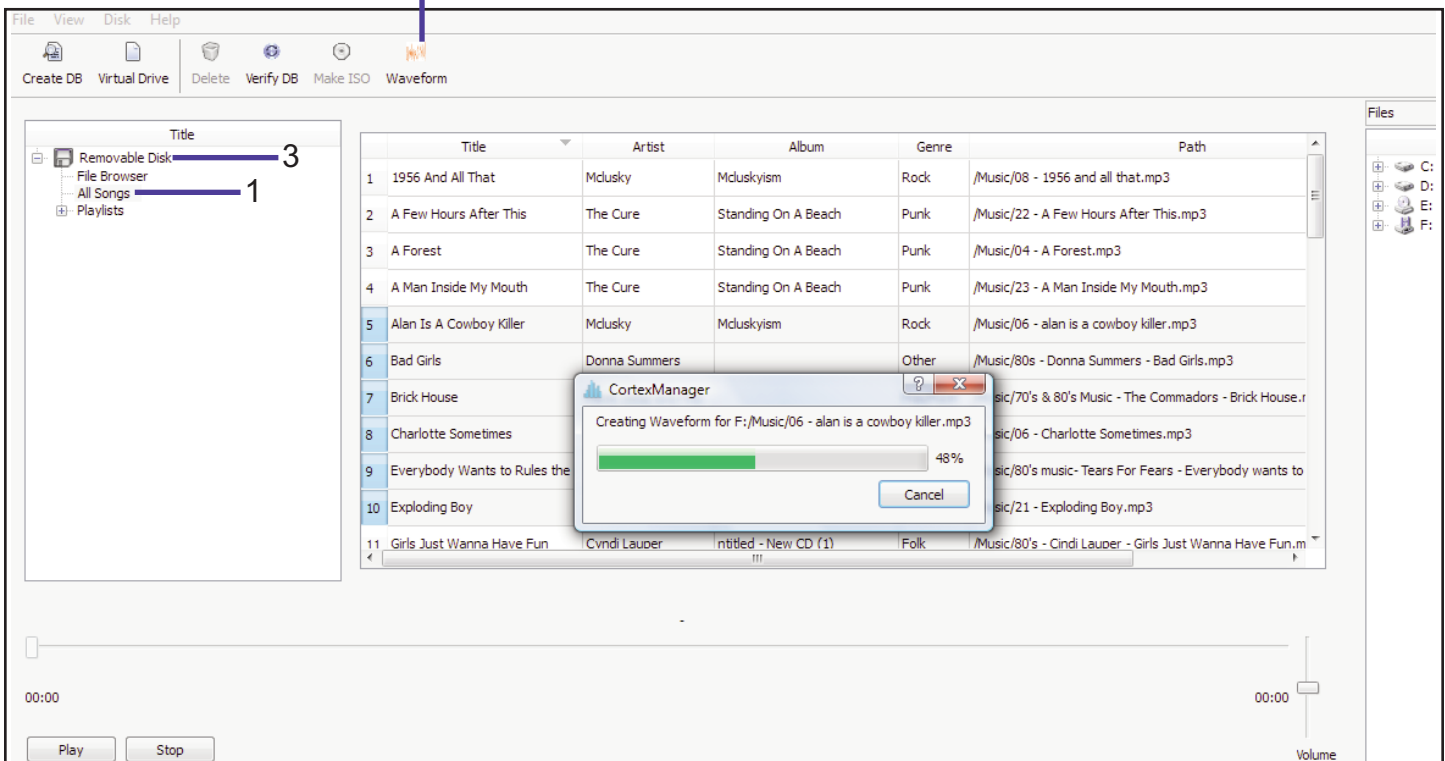
**Step 6:** Single Click on the 'New Virtual' folder.

**Step 7:** Single Click on 'MakeISO.' This will create an ISO image with all necessary database information, which can then be burned by a number of CD/DVD burning software. You will need to specify a directory where the ISO file should be saved.

**Step 8:** Use a compatible burning software to burn the ISO image. Nero Burning Rom is recommended, as you can easily load and burn an ISO file. For more detailed instructions on how to burn an ISO image, consult the manual of your burning software.

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## Creating Waveforms



If you have a Cortex HDC-3000, you will be able to view waveforms of music on the main play screen. While these waveforms can be created on the unit, it is much faster to create them on a PC or Mac. As such, we offer this option within the unit.

To create a waveform, the first thing the user must do is select the tracks (or drive) they wish to create the waveforms on. If you wish to create waveforms on individual songs, go into the "All Songs" menu on the left hand side of the screen (1) to view the music on your drive. Then, after you have selected your songs (either individual tracks or groups of tracks by pressing the Shift or CTRL keys on your keyboard while clicking on songs), simply select the "Waveform" option located at the top of the screen (2). This will start the waveform creation process, which should only take a few seconds per song.

To create waveforms on an entire drive, simply select the drive on the side of the screen (3) and then select "Waveform" on the top of the screen to create waveforms on the entire drive. Depending on the size of the drive and the number of songs, this can take anything from a few minutes to a few hours.