

# CasaTunes Support for Apple iTunes and Apple iPod

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# CasaTunes

Multi-Room Music Server

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## **Introduction**

The popularity of Apple iTunes has made it the de facto music service for many homeowners. Integrating support for Apple iTunes is one of the many challenges facing multi-room audio vendors. The majority of today's solutions indirectly support Apple iTunes by supporting iPod devices, and typically require the purchase of a proprietary iPod docking port. These solutions are limited to a single stream of music played from a docked iPod, and often provide a slow and rudimentary interface for selecting music from these devices.

CasaTunes offers a unique approach to this problem, providing first class support for both Apple iPod devices and Apple iTunes. CasaTunes allows you to listen to multiple streams of Apple iTunes and/or Apple iPod music.

### **iTunes**

The advanced capabilities of CasaTunesSync™ for iTunes enables you to consolidate all your iTunes Plus music residing on one or more Microsoft Windows networked PC's in the home using your CasaTunes music server (at this time, music stored on Apple computers is not accessible). Since each family member typically manages their own iTunes music collection stored on their own laptop or desktop, CasaTunesSync for iTunes provides a solution for each family member to synchronize their music collection with the CasaTunes music server.

Once synchronized, these Apple iTunes Plus music collections can be played back throughout the home. CasaTunesSync for iTunes can be configured to either copy each iTunes music collection on to the CasaTunes music server, or to play the music directly from the shared computer. There are, however, two significant benefits of copying music collections to the CasaTunes music server. First, it allows your Apple iTunes Plus music collection to be played regardless of whether the PC that contains the copied iTunes Plus music is powered on and networked, and secondly, it provides a simple way to backup your Apple iTunes Plus music collection.

When selecting music to listen to from your Apple iTunes Plus music collections, you can configure CasaTunes to consolidate all your Apple iTunes Plus music into a single iTunes Plus library, or create multiple iTunes Plus libraries, one for each user.

### **iPod, iPod touch or iPhone**

Rather than using CasaTunesSync for iTunes, you can choose to play back music directly from an Apple iPod, iPod touch or iPhone. With CasaTunes it is not necessary to purchase any additional proprietary docking stations or additional software. Simply plug the iPod or iPhone into a USB port on the CasaTunes music server PC using the USB to iPod cable that came with the device, and CasaTunes will automatically detect and allow music to be played from these devices.

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Once docked, CasaTunes will automatically display your iPod album cover art if available, and provide the capability to play multiple streams from a single iPod or iPod-like device, turning your iPod device into a powerful music server.

In order for CasaTunes to recognize your Apple iPod touch or iPhone device you will need to install the Apple iTunes software on your CasaTunes music server PC. Apple iTunes is not required for regular Apple iPods. In addition, your iPod or iPhone does not have to be configured to be synchronized with this machine. So, if a friend comes over and wants to play music from their iPod, simply plug it in!

The remainder of this document will describe the details behind CasaTunes' support for Apple iTunes and how best to setup your CasaTunes music server and client machines, so you can enjoy listening to your favorite Apple iTunes Plus music collections.

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## **Playback of Apple iTunes Plus Music**

CasaTunes includes native (software) decoders for playing back non-protected MP3 and M4A (Apple iTunes Plus) music files. This provides an out-of-the-box experience for playing your Apple iTunes Plus and Apple iPod music, without the need to install any additional software.

① CasaTunes currently plays back music from multiple docked iPods.

## CasaTunesSync for iTunes on a Windows PC (Mac instructions are in a separate CasaTunesSync for iTunes on a Mac document)

There are two parts to CasaTunesSync for iTunes that must be configured. The first is the CasaTunes music server configuration (where the CasaTunes application runs), and the second is the client laptop or desktop where the music is located. The CasaTunes music server, itself, can be a client, if you want to play music from the Apple iTunes music collection that resides on the CasaTunes music server PC.

### ***CasaTunes music server configuration (server configuration)***

1. Run CasaTunes Setup.
2. Select the iTunes Plus tab, as follows:

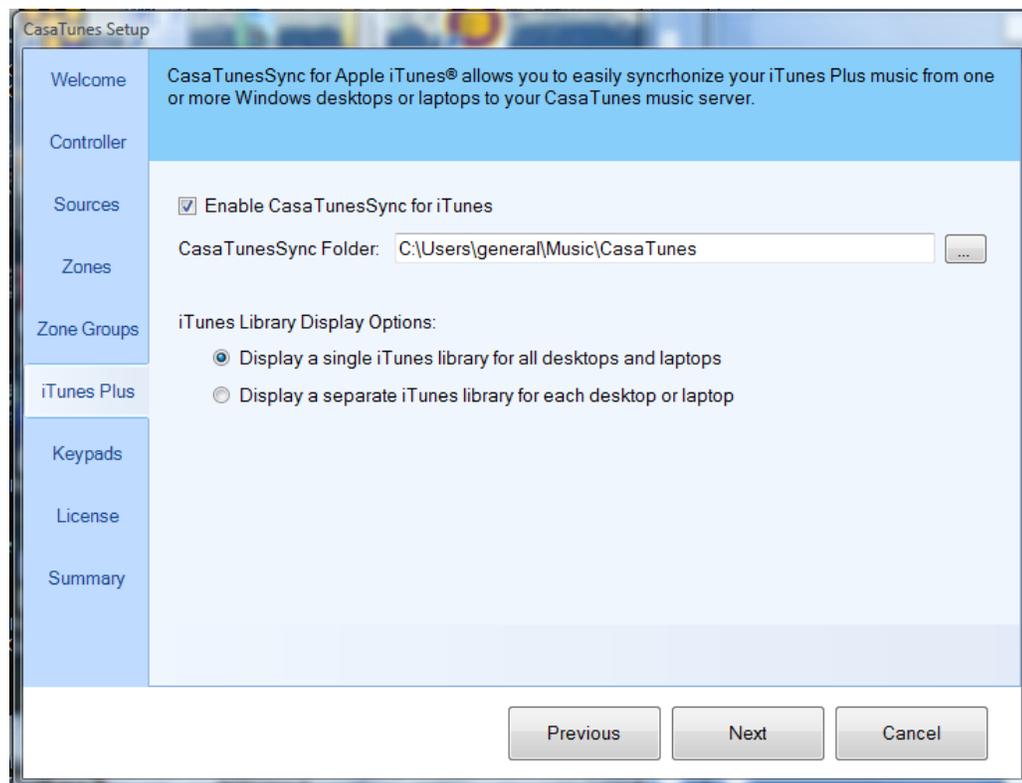


Figure 1 - CasaTunes Setup - iTunes Tab

3. Click on *Enable CasaTunesSync for iTunes* to enable CasaTunesSync
4. Select the directory or folder where you want CasaTunesSync to maintain its files on your CasaTunes music server. By default, this folder is located in the *CasaTunes* folder in the *Music* (My Music) folder. This folder is used to maintain the synchronization files, album cover art, and if you decide to copy music files during the client configuration, all the music files. If you are planning to configure clients to copy music, you must make sure this location has sufficient space for all the music files that will be copied.

5. In the *iTunes Library Display Options* select whether you want to display a single iTunes library in the CasaTunes User Interface, or whether you want to display a separate iTunes library for each client.

① CasaTunes will create a network share (this means it will share the folder to all computers on the local network) for the *CasaTunesSync Folder*. The name of the share it creates is *CasaMusic*. When this share is created it assigns permissions for the current user only. You may need to add other permissions for other users to access this share. If CasaTunesSync fails with an access denied failure, this is the most common cause.

① The CasaTunesSync folder must reside on the CasaTunes music server machine for it to be shared, i.e., it cannot be on a network attached drive.

① When copying files, the synchronization software is smart about copying a single copy of the same music file that may exist in multiple iTunes music collections.

This completes the CasaTunesSync music server configuration. The next step is to configure each CasaTunesSync client. In order to install the client, you will need to know the name of your CasaTunes music server PC. To find the name of a PC, right-click on the *Computer* icon and select *Properties*. In Windows XP, click on the *Computer Name* tab. In Windows Vista, the System window will come up; look in the “Computer name, domain and workgroup settings section. The computer name is the first part of the *Full Computer Name* (before the '.' if present).

## ***Installing and Configuring the CasaTunesSync for iTunes client software***

You install the CasaTunesSync client software from the web. **The following assumes that iTunes is already installed on this client computer.**

1. To install the client open your favorite browser and enter the following URL:

<http://www.CasaTunes.com/installsync>.

① This software is currently only available for Windows.

2. CasaTunesSync for iTunes is a *published* application. This means that every time you start the CasaTunesSync application it automatically checks to see whether a new version of the application is available. If a new version is available you will be prompted whether you would like to update the application. If you select to update the application, the application is automatically updated before running it.
3. If you later decide to uninstall CasaTunesSync, open the control panel and select Add/Remove Programs (in Vista, select “Uninstall a program” in the “Programs”

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section of the Control Panel. Locate the CasaTunesSync for iTunes application, click it, and select remove.

4. After installing the application, CasaTunesSync for iTunes is automatically started. When CasaTunesSync runs, it will automatically start iTunes (if iTunes is not already running), and automatically minimize iTunes once it has started. When iTunes starts, it occasionally displays a dialog, for example asking whether you would like to update the iTunes software. When iTunes displays a dialog, all applications that interface with iTunes, like CasaTunesSync, will be temporarily suspended, so you must respond to these dialogs before CasaTunesSync can start the synchronization process.
5. If this is the first time you have run CasaTunesSync, it should display the *Settings* tab as follows (if not, click on the *Settings* tab):

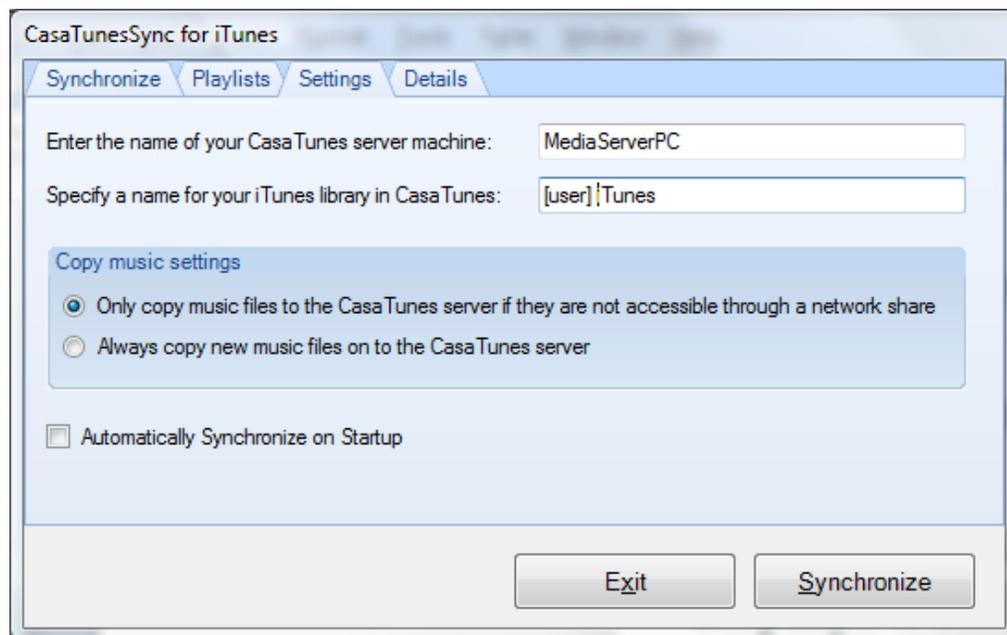


Figure 2 - CasaTunesSync Settings Tab

6. Enter the following information in the *Settings* tab.
  - a. Enter the name of the CasaTunes music server PC (where CasaTunes is installed). Do **not** include "\\\" in the name.
  - b. Specify the name you want displayed in the CasaTunes User Interface. This name will be displayed in the Music Type area of the Music Select window in the CasaTunes user interface.
  - c. Select whether you want to copy your iTunes music files or access the music files from the client computer. If your iTunes music files are located on the CasaTunes music server PC, the files will not be copied

again (regardless of your selection here). In order to access music files using a network share, the music files must have been added to your iTunes library using this network share. We recommend either you copy your iTunes music collection, or your iTunes music files reside on the CasaTunes music server. This ensures your iTunes music is always available, as well as providing a backup copy of your music files.

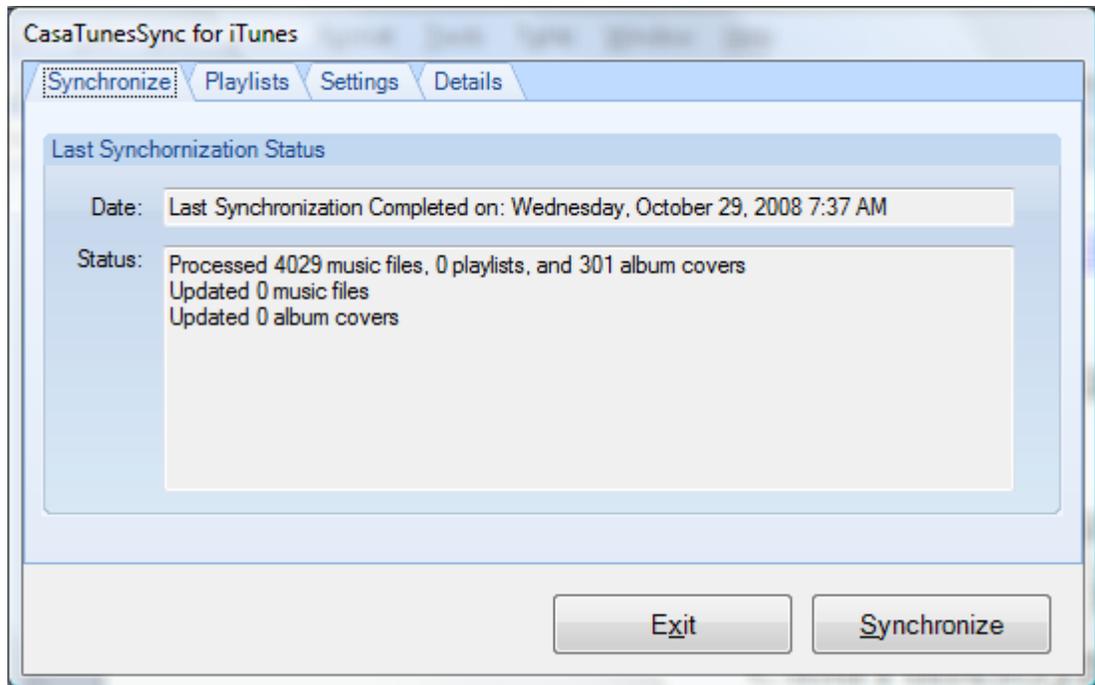
① When copying music files, the first time you run the Synchronization process it will take a long time. After the first synchronization has completed, subsequent synchronizations should be quick, depending on the amount of new music that has been added to the library since the last synchronization. If you are synchronizing multiple iTunes music collections, and the music collections contain many of the same music files, the same music file will be copied once only.

### ***Synchronizing your Apple iTunes music collection***

When you are finished installing CasaTunesSync for iTunes and every time you add music to iTunes on the client computer and you want the new music to appear in CasaTunes, you must synchronize the iTunes music collection. To synchronize your iTunes music collection:

1. Start CasaTunesSync for iTunes
2. Click on the *Synchronize* tab and click on the *Synchronize* button. The synchronization begins a three step process:
  1. Synchronizes the current Apple iTunes music collection against the previously synchronized library (if available). This is usually a quick process.
  2. If configured to copy music files, CasaTunesSync will copy any new music files to the CasaTunes music server. The amount of time this step takes is directly proportional to the number of music files to be synchronized.
  3. Synchronizes all album cover art. This is usually a quick process.

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**Figure 3 - Synchronize Apple iTunes music**