GENERAL

how to transfer music from iphone to computer

Published: September 3, 2026 | Index ID: #-

How to Transfer Music from iPhone to Computer: A Complete Guide

With the rise of streaming services, many people still prefer having a local copy of their favorite tracks on their computer. Whether you want to back up your library, create a playlist for a road trip, or simply enjoy your music offline, transferring songs from an iPhone to a computer is a common task. This guide walks you through every method you can use—whether you're on Windows, macOS, or using a cloud service—so you'll know exactly how to get your music from your iPhone to your computer without losing any data.

Why Transfer Music from Your iPhone?

There are several reasons you might want to move music from your iPhone to a PC or Mac:

- Backup and Archiving – Keep a copy of your library in case your phone is lost, damaged, or you upgrade to a new device.
- Cross-Platform Access – Listen to your songs on a laptop, desktop, or even a smart TV without needing the phone.
- Editing and Remixing – Use audio editing software on your computer to tweak tracks or create new mixes.
- Sharing with Friends – Transfer music to a USB drive or external hard drive to share with friends or family.
- Legal and Licensing – Some music files come with DRM restrictions that prevent transfer; knowing the right method ensures compliance.

Below you'll find step-by-step instructions for every popular method, plus troubleshooting tips if something goes wrong.

Method 1: Using Finder or iTunes (macOS & Windows)

Apple's official tools—iTunes on Windows and Finder on macOS Catalina and later—are the most reliable ways to sync and transfer music. They support both USB and wireless connections.

Step-by-Step on macOS (Catalina and newer)

1. Connect your iPhone to your Mac using a USB cable or make sure both devices are on the same Wi Fi network.
2. Open Finder and select your iPhone from the sidebar under "Locations." If it's the first time you're connecting, you may need to click "Trust" on your phone and enter your passcode.
3. Click the Music tab in the Finder window. You'll see options to sync music automatically or manually.
4. Check the box that says Sync music onto [your iPhone's name]. If you want to transfer only selected songs, choose "Selected playlists, artists, albums, and genres."
5. Click Apply or Sync to start the transfer. Once finished, you'll see a progress bar.
6. Open the Music app on your Mac. Your transferred songs should appear in the library.

Step-by-Step on Windows (iTunes)

1. Download and install the latest version of iTunes from the Microsoft Store or Apple's website.
2. Launch iTunes and connect your iPhone via USB.
3. Click the device icon that appears in the top-left corner of iTunes.

4. Under the “Settings” menu, click Music. Tick the option to Sync Music and choose “Entire music library” or “Selected playlists, artists, albums, and genres.”
5. Click Apply or Sync. Your music will be copied to the iTunes library on your computer.
6. Navigate to your iTunes folder (usually C:\Users\[Username]\Music\iTunes\iTunes Media\Music) to find the files.

Key Points to Remember

- iTunes and Finder transfer non-DRM protected songs. If a track is DRM locked, it will not appear in the transfer list.
- When you sync, any new songs added to the iPhone after the sync will not automatically copy to the computer unless you re sync.
- To preserve metadata such as album art and song titles, avoid using third party converters that strip this information.

Method 2: Using iCloud Music Library (Apple Music & iCloud)

Apple’s iCloud Music Library (now called “Sync Library”) automatically uploads your music to the cloud, making it accessible across all devices signed into the same Apple ID. This method is ideal if you already use Apple Music or iTunes Match.

How It Works

- Enable Sync Library on your iPhone: Settings > Music > Sync Library.
- Enable the same setting on your computer’s iTunes or Music app.
- All tracks, including those purchased from the iTunes Store, will appear in your cloud library.
- Once uploaded, the files are stored in Apple’s cloud servers, not locally on your computer. However, you can download them for offline use by selecting “Download” from the library.

Benefits & Limitations

- Pros: No cables required; works across all Apple devices.
- Cons: Requires an Apple Music subscription (or iTunes Match). Files remain in Apple’s cloud, so you can’t move them to arbitrary folders on your computer.

Method 3: Using iCloud Drive & the Files App

For songs that you have purchased or downloaded from the iTunes Store, you can manually copy them to iCloud Drive and then download them to your computer. This method works for both macOS and Windows.

On Your iPhone

1. Open the Files app.
2. Navigate to Browse and then to On My iPhone > Music.
3. Select the songs or albums you want to transfer.
4. Tap the Share icon, then choose Save to Files and select an iCloud Drive folder.

On Your Computer

- macOS: Open Finder, go to iCloud Drive, and download the files to your desired folder.
- Windows: Install the iCloud for Windows app. Open File Explorer, find iCloud Drive, and copy the files.

Considerations

- This method works only for songs that are DRM free. If a track is DRM protected, it won’t appear in the Files app.

- The process is manual and may be time consuming for large libraries.

Method 4: Using AirDrop (macOS & iOS)

AirDrop is a quick, wireless way to transfer individual files between Apple devices. It’s ideal for a few songs or small albums, but not practical for a full library.

Transferring Songs via AirDrop

1. On your iPhone, open the Music app and find the song you want to send.
2. Tap the Share button (the square with an arrow pointing up).
3. Select AirDrop and choose your Mac from the list.
4. On your Mac, a prompt will appear asking to accept the file. Click Accept.
5. Choose a location to save the file (e.g., Downloads).

Tips for Successful AirDrop

- Ensure both devices have AirDrop enabled and are within 30 feet of each other.
- Set AirDrop visibility to “Contacts Only” or “Everyone” as needed.
- Use a stable Wi Fi network to avoid interference.

Method 5: Using Third Party Software

Several third party applications can help you transfer music from an iPhone to a computer, especially if you have DRM protected content or need more granular control over file formats.

Popular Options

- iMazing – Offers music transfer, backup, and management features with a user-friendly interface.
- Syncios – Supports music, photos, and videos, with a free version that covers most needs.
- AnyTrans – Provides a comprehensive media manager, including music, with bulk transfer capabilities.

Using iMazing as an Example

1. Download and install iMazing on your computer.
2. Connect your iPhone via USB.
3. In iMazing, select Music from the left sidebar.
4. Click Export to Computer and choose the destination folder.
5. Wait for the transfer to complete. The app will preserve metadata and album art.

Pros & Cons

- Pros: Often support DRM protected music if you have the necessary licenses; can export to various formats (MP3, AAC, FLAC).
- Cons: Many features are behind a paywall; potential security concerns with third party software.

Method 6: Using Cloud Storage Services (Dropbox, Google Drive, OneDrive)

If you prefer a cloud-based solution that’s accessible on multiple platforms, you can upload your music to a service like Dropbox, Google Drive, or OneDrive and then download it to your computer.

Uploading from iPhone

1. Install the cloud service app (e.g., Dropbox) from the App Store.
2. Open the app and sign in.
3. Tap the + Add button and choose Upload File.

4. Navigate to Files > On My iPhone > Music and select the songs.
5. Confirm the upload. The files will appear in your cloud folder.

Downloading to Computer

- Open the cloud service's web interface or desktop app.
- Find the uploaded music files.
- Right click and select Download or drag them to a local folder.

Advantages

- Accessible from any device with internet access.
- Provides an extra backup layer.
- Often includes sharing links for quick sharing.

Method 7: Using USB Storage (SD Card or External Hard Drive)

For a more traditional approach, you can use a USB storage device to transfer music. This method is useful if you have a large library and want to keep it on a portable drive.

Steps

1. Connect a USB drive to your iPhone using an Apple Camera Adapter or a Lightning to USB Camera Adapter.
2. Open the Files app and navigate to the Music folder.
3. Drag and drop songs onto the USB drive icon.
4. Safely eject the USB drive and connect it to your computer.
5. Copy the files to your desired folder.

Things to Watch Out For

Baca Juga (Artikel Terkait)

- **sims 3 trophy guide and roadmap**
  URL: http://arnpagency.com/sims-3-trophy-guide-and-roadmap.pdf
- **the elf on the shelf story online**
  URL: http://arnpagency.com/the-elf-on-the-shelf-story-online.pdf
- **biological classification pogil**
  URL: http://arnpagency.com/biological-classification-pogil.pdf
- **kubota 3 cylinder diesel engine manual**
  URL: http://arnpagency.com/kubota-3-cylinder-diesel-engine-manual.pdf

Tags: #transfer #music #from #iphone #computer