

Amazing Slow Downer – main screen

At the very top The name of the folder where the track is stored on your computer and the name you have given the file (track)

Playlist window

Lists the tracks you've loaded (drag & drop from computer files)

What's currently playing

Highlighted in blue

Time window

How far through current track you are

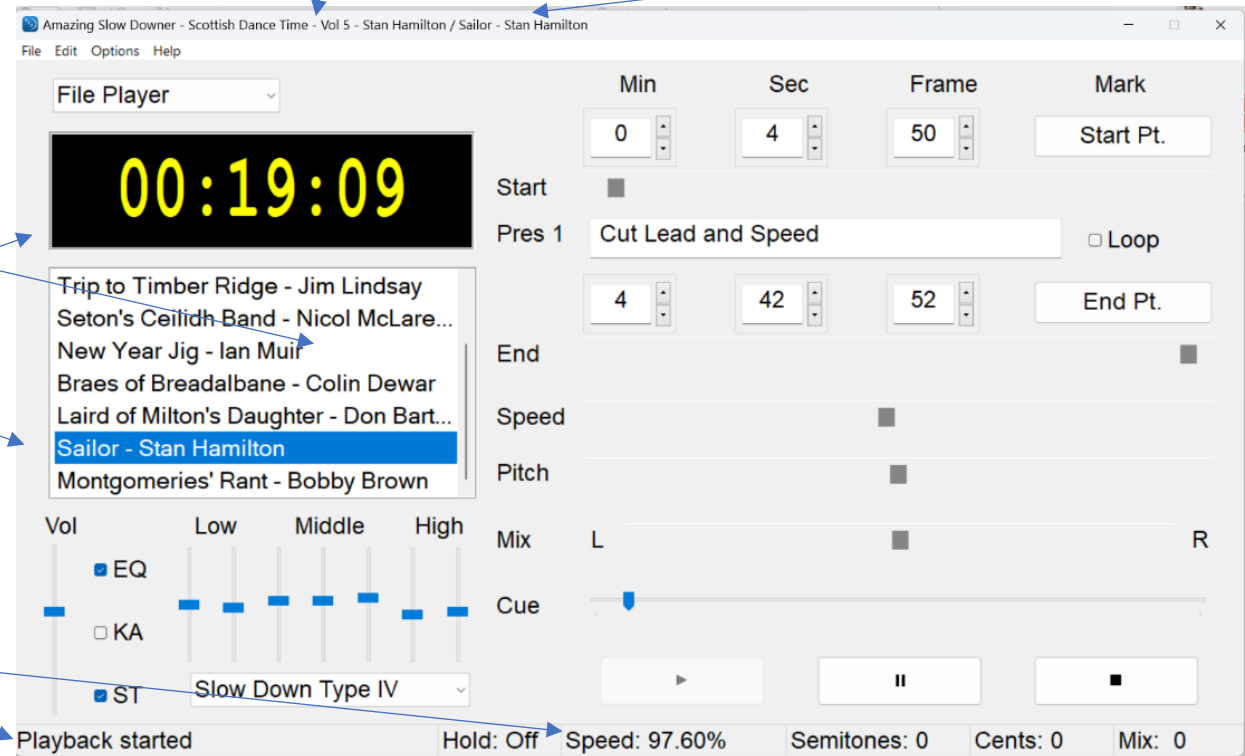
Along the bottom

What's currently happening

Playback started

(the music is currently playing)

Speed: shows any speed adjustments made

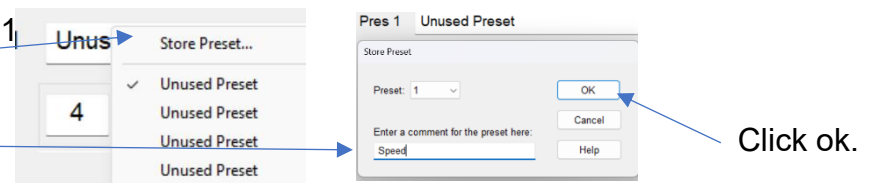


Altered speeds can be saved, so that next time you select that track from the computer it will automatically play at your preset speed. You can still adjust it according to conditions on the day (and re-save if you wish), but at least the speed will be in the ball-park.

To save an altered speed, right click on the window to the right of the words Pres 1 (it currently has the words "Unused Preset" in the window).

Select the top option "Store Preset"

Call it something. I just call it Speed.



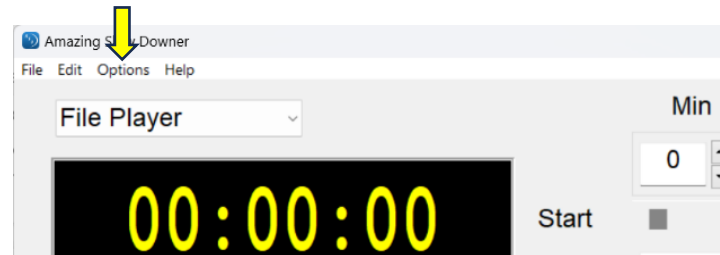
Sometimes tracks have a very long lead-in, or two chords and you'd like to get rid of one, you can adjust (and Save) the starting point of the track. Using the arrows next to the Minutes, Seconds and Frames windows make your starting point decision. If you'd like to save it to open at that point forever more, save it as the first Preset and call it whatever you like.

The example above shows that I have cut the long lead-in at the beginning. It's come from a record and the first nearly five seconds were just silence. I've also made a speed adjustment, so I've titled the preset to reflect that.

Settings

Along the top tabs there are lots of options under **Options**.

Preferences.



- **Miscellaneous** is a good one.

Every time you make a change or selection in Options, Preferences you need to close Amazing SD and reopen it for the changes to take effect.

Display Slowdown as speed – Yes (tick)

Autostart next track – No (untick).

That was the annoying thing with playing CDs

Autoload Preset 1 – Yes (tick)

This means that every time you load a track onto Amazing SD it will automatically set-up whatever you have saved in Preset 1.

Reset on Track Change – Yes (tick)

This will reset (undo) any changes you've made to the track you're playing when you change to a different track (unless of course you saved the changes)

You don't really want that you've slowed down one track to retain its slowed-downness when you select the next dance.

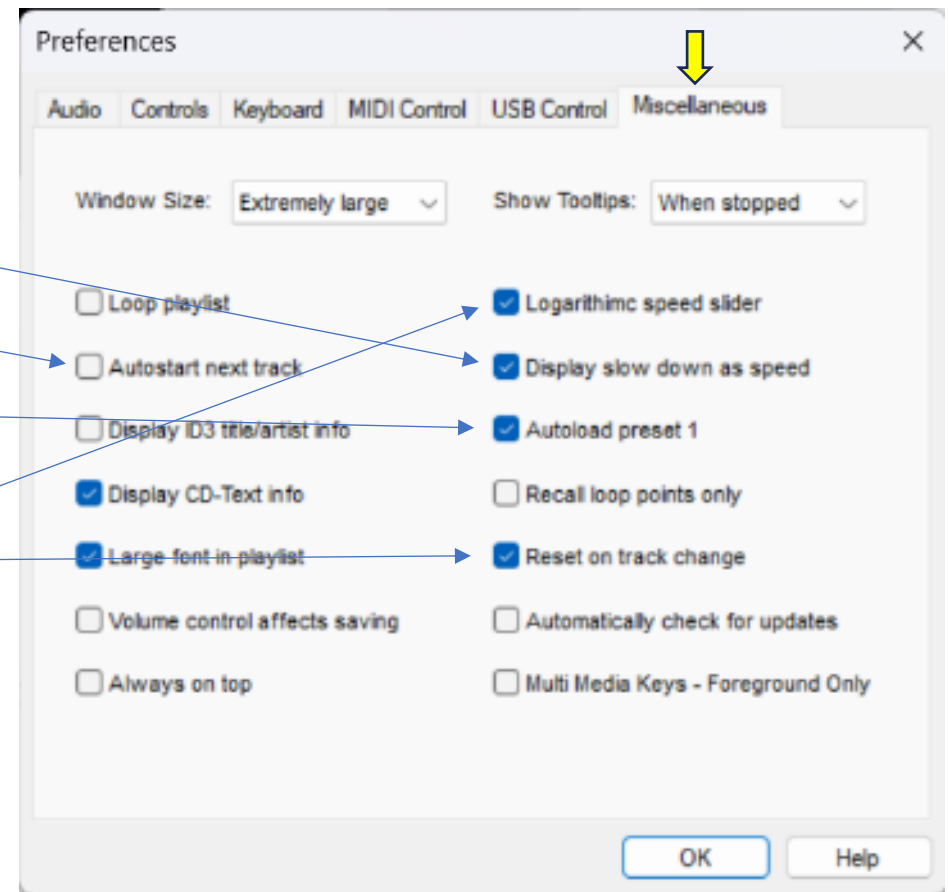
Logarithmic speed slider – Yes (tick)

Displays the speed changes as a percentage of the original, with 100% sitting in the middle of the slider

Window size

This is how big the programme will display on your screen.

Play around with this until you find which size best suits your needs



Controls

Spacebar Toggles Between

Pause/Continue – yes (select)

If you select Play/Stop it will go back to the start of the track each time

Delay before Playback – No (select)

Rewind on stop (or pause).

This is brilliant!!!!

Select 4 seconds 50 frames

I have mine set to rewind on Stop (or pause)

4 seconds and 50 frames (just short of 5 seconds).

So, when you press Pause – it goes back 5 seconds. When you press Pause (or play) again it picks up where you left off, but back 5 seconds.

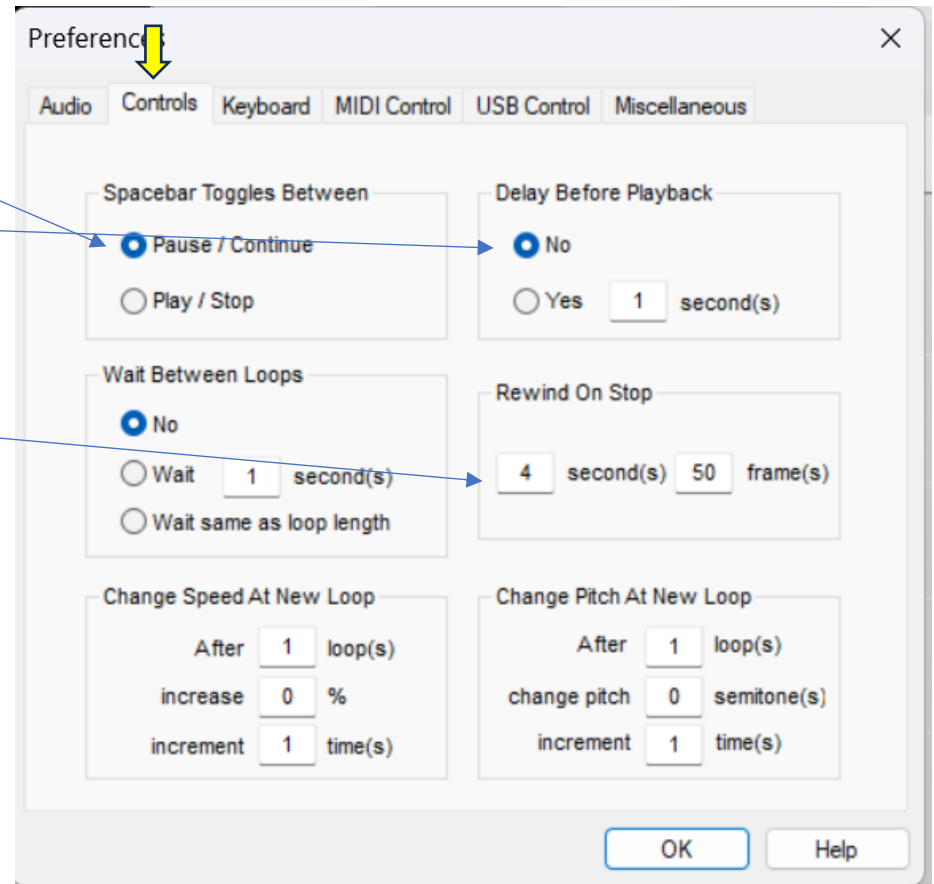
5 seconds is “5 2,3 6 2,3 7 2,3 and ready go” in fast time and “7 2,3 and 8 2,3” in Strathspey.

Particularly useful for stopping for whatever reason at the end of 32 bars and wanting to pick it up again for the next time through. Sometimes you only want to do a dance once each, but it starts with something you all need to be in the right place for, so this eliminates going back to the chord each time.

Or the class is new and you want to give them a moment to reset their brains at the end of each 32.

Or simply something went wrong in a set and you want to sort it out at the end of 32.

You need to have Paused it at just the right time though. Practice getting the timing right of hitting the pause button (or space-bar) at just the right moment.

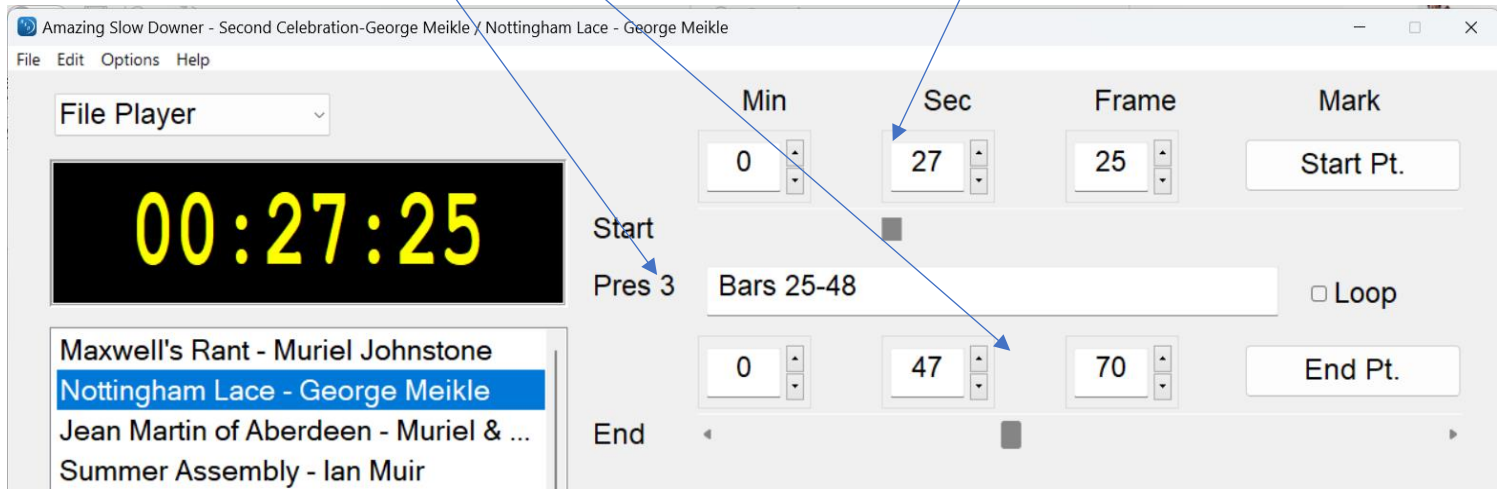


Saving multiple presets

You can save up to 10 presets. Things like speed, starting point, end point etc.

If you are teaching a dance of many parts and you want to practice just one part to the right piece of music - find the start of that section, set the start point using the slider named **Start** (or use the minutes, seconds and frames windows). Find the end point of the section and set the end point using the slider named **End** (or use the minutes, seconds and frames windows). Save it as a preset (instructions above) I would suggest not using Preset 1 as your save, as that's the one that preloads each time you select that track. Use any of the other presets. Title it accordingly (eg "B part – diagonal Reels"). Below example saved as Preset 3

Nottingham Lace for example. 96 bar dance. Four parts of 24 bars each. Below example shows teaching bars 25-48. The music will begin at the 27 second mark and stop at just short of 48 seconds. It'll give a four bar lead-in (because when you paused it, it went back five seconds remember), play the length set and stop.



By *right clicking* in the Preset window it show what presets have been saved. Just click on which preset you want to play.

