# Setting Input/Output Preferences

Sometimes, Windows or Macs don't immediately recognize headphones the first time or two you use them. In addition, Audacity seems to have a similar problem. Fortunately, they both learn to play nicely once you follow these directions. You may need to restart Audacity for this to take effect.

# Windows

**In XP:**
1. Attach headphones to the computer
2. Click **Start** > **Control Panels**
3. Select **Sounds and Audio Devices**
4. Select the **Audio** tab
5. Pull down **Sound Playback** menu and select your headset
6. Pull down **Sound Recording** menu and select your headset
**7.** Click **Apply** and **OK**.

**In Audacity:**
1. Pull down **Edit > Preferences**
2. Select **Audio I/O** tab
3. Pull down the **Playback device** menu and select your headset
4. Pull down the **Recording Device** and select your headset

# Mac

**On the Mac**
1. Pull down the Apple menu > System Preferences
2. Select Sound
3. Click the Input tab and select your headphone
4. Click the Output tab and select your headphone

**In Audacity**
1. Pull down Audacity > Preferences
2. Select Audio I/O tab
3. Pull down the **Playback device** menu and select your headset
4. Pull down the **Recording Device** and select your headset