iPod Data Transfer Software Comparison and Analysis

Are you looking for full-featured and easy-to-use software that will allow you to upload music, videos, pictures and podcasts from your iPod to iTunes quickly and easily? If so, it is important to remember that all iPod data transfer software on the market today does this but many products do not allow you to upload data from your computer to your iPod or iPhone. This particular feature seems to be a dividing line of sorts between the less expensive and more expensive products out there, namely that the less expensive mono- transfer capability products and the slightly more expensive products that support dual computer to iPod and iPod to computer data transfer. The following is a brief summary of user experiences and general analysis of some of the more popular iPod transfer software offerings currently available for purchase.

1. iPod to Computer Transfer 5.3:

iPod to Computer Transfer performs the data transfer from your iPod to your computer seamlessly for music and videos although some users have reported problems with transferring games. Other users feel that the upgrade process is not clearly discernable and some have reservations about the look and feel of the software itself, but all in all,   iPod to Computer Transfer 5.3 performs the tasks it claims to do efficiently, and is priced in the 20 dollar category of iPod one-way transfer software offerings, although it is unclear if all data can be transferred with this software, not just music and videos. This product has a free trial download available on cnet and zdnet or on their website.

2. MediaWidget Easy iPod Transfer 4.0.16:

MediaWidget is one of these iPod transfer software products in the 25 dollar range that has dual iPod to computer and computer to iPod transfer capability. According to users, MediaWidget excels with an intelligently organized and comprehensive array of features, although some would like to have more tutorials available to learn how to use all these features! There is also a 20% discount coupon for this product on softprice.net (search for MediaWidget).

MediaWidget gets great reviews for its ability to perform dual transfer tasks seamlessly and for its attractive design, although one user did report having problems with transferring playlists in lieu of individual songs.   Other users reported being able to transfer playlists without incident, however. All in all, MediaWidget gets rave reviews for its full-featured functionality and would be a good fit for the iPod or iPhone user who has experience in using this kind of software and is looking for a more comprehensive iPod software transfer utility.   A free trial download is available for this product on the Bootstrap Development website or on cNet or ZDnet, among others.

3. Xilisoft iPod Rip 2.1.21.0120:

Like MediaWidget, Xilisoft iPod Rip is another full-featured dual transfer software product priced in the 25 dollar range – 26 dollars in this case. Users generally feel that this software does what it says it will do, although some users did report it having issues with bugs and crashes. Overall, this is a full-featured product that is recommended for the more experienced user. It also has a free trial download available on the Xlisoft website or on the major software download sites.

4. 4Media iPod to PC Transfer 2.1.33.0522:

4Media iPod to PC Transfer is priced in the 25 dollar range like MediaWidget and iPod Rip but interestingly enough does not have dual transfer capability like those products do and is therefore questionable how the price can be justified without this added functionality. However, users report that this software does what it says it can do with relatively few problems. It also has a free trial download available on the 4Media website or on the major software download sites.

5. Tansee iPod Transfer 3.3:

Tansee iPod Transfer is competitively priced in the 20 dollar range with similar iPod to computer transfer only software products in this category. This particular product above all others reviewed here received numerous complaints about mainly two things: first, many users reported that this product does not install properly or crashes when being installed on a second iPod or iPhone and second, their customer service left much to be desired as far as finding a solution to a problem is concerned.

Other users reported that it could not transfer meta data such as volume adjustments, manual song titles and playlists – just individual songs and videos only. In sum, given the numerous yet-to-be-resolved issues with this product, it is recommended that you at least compare other products by using the free trial download before purchasing this one.

6. iPod Robot iPod to Computer Transfer 4.5:

iPod Robot iPod to Computer Transfer software is priced in the 20 dollar range and offers single transfer capability along with similarly priced competing products out there. Many users report liking the clean and crisp layout of the software and say that this software does what it says it can do without incident. In sum, this is a solid choice for the more entry-level user who is looking for a quick, easy and more cost-effective way to transfer data from their iPod to iTunes. The only limitation we could find was that there is a 7 day trial download only – available o n the iPodRobot website or on the major software download sites.

7. iPodAid iPod To Computer Transfer 5.7.2:

iPodAid iPod To Computer Transfer is another one of these more basic features offerings that is priced at the lower end of the spectrum at around 20 dollars. It has a somewhat hard to read user interface with grey text over a black background. Users have reported that the trial version, available for download on the major software download sites as well as the iPod Aid website, only allow you to transfer one song before prompting you to upgrade to the paid Pro version – beware!

8. iPod to computer copy 2.3:

iPod to computer copy, the highest priced product on this list at 30 dollars, is a stretch considering that it only supports single iPod to computer data transfer. Users consider the software to perform capably with regard to transferring all types of files, however. It also has a free trial download available on the Tansee website and other major software download sites.

Taking advantage of the free trial downloads that most of the iPod to computer software manufacturers offer on the above software download websites will help you better determine which software is right for you. However, it is important to remember that if you elect to purchase one of the iPod to computer software offerings that does not include the ability to upload data to your iPod or iPhone from your computer.

 Using software that does not support both iPod to computer and computer to iPod data transfer means you will either lose your iPod data altogether in the case of loss, theft or an operating system reinstall. Or in other words, you may eventually purchase an iPod data software package that supports dual iPod to computer/computer to iPod data transfer if you want to upload music to your new or repaired iPod or iPhone.   Upon closer examination, it's our view that it is well worth the extra few dollars to have this added functionality, both as a safeguard to your iPod data as well as the ability to transfer data between multiple iPods and iPhones. Remember that not all iPod to computer software is created equal!