

# User Guide

## Song Cues for iOS (2.0)



### General Description:

Song Cues is a digital music player for customized playback of Apple Music playlists. Users can cue songs to fade-in, fade-out, start later, or end earlier, and they can customize how their playlists are shuffled. In contrast to current mixing apps, this app provides a hands-off listening experience, applying cues and settings that the user has pre-defined. It does not modify files in your music library.

### How it works:

Once Song Cues is installed on an iPhone, the app will show the Apple Music playlists that are also on that iPhone. The user can then create cues and playlist settings for customized playback through the app. Ownership of songs is required to make cues. However, unowned songs are also playable in this version and all additional features and settings will apply to them.

### Issues this app addresses:

- (1) Songs that the user might prefer to start later or end earlier. Common examples include live recordings that have a long duration or talking intros or outros, electronic music tracks with long runways for mixing, and hidden tracks.
- (2) Songs that the user might prefer to fade in or fade out. Common examples include live recordings where audience applause is not faded between songs, tracks within continuous DJ mixes, and songs that have a cue to end early.
- (3) Songs that were recorded a notch too soft or loud.
- (4) Endless music when the user might prefer to hear songs in smaller chunks.
- (5) Inflexible playlist settings when the user might want to adjust the likelihood that certain songs will play.
- (6) Hearing the same song twice when switching playlists in the same session.
- (7) Hearing multiple versions of a song in the same session.

### Audio Quality:

Song Cues utilizes MusicKit to play songs that do not have cues and AVAudioEngine to play songs that do have cues. More detailed information about the audio quality of MusicKit and AVAudioEngine is available online.

## User interface:

- Cues page

### 1. Track info:

The user can see track info by pressing "Load from current track" while a song is playing or by selecting from the list of songs with cues.

### 2. Enable cues for this song:

This allows the user to temporarily disable or reenable the cues for a song. If the cues for a song are temporarily disabled, the song title will appear grayed out on the list of songs with cues and the song will play without cues.

### 3. Start at (M:SS:ds) and End at (M:SS:ds):

This allows the user to start a song later or end it earlier. Acceptable formats include M:SS (eg., 0:35 or 2:35), :SS (eg., :35), and may include deciseconds (eg., 0:35.0, 2:35.5, :35.7). If nothing is entered in the field, it will remain grayed out and will not apply a cue there.

### 4. Fade-in and Fade-out:

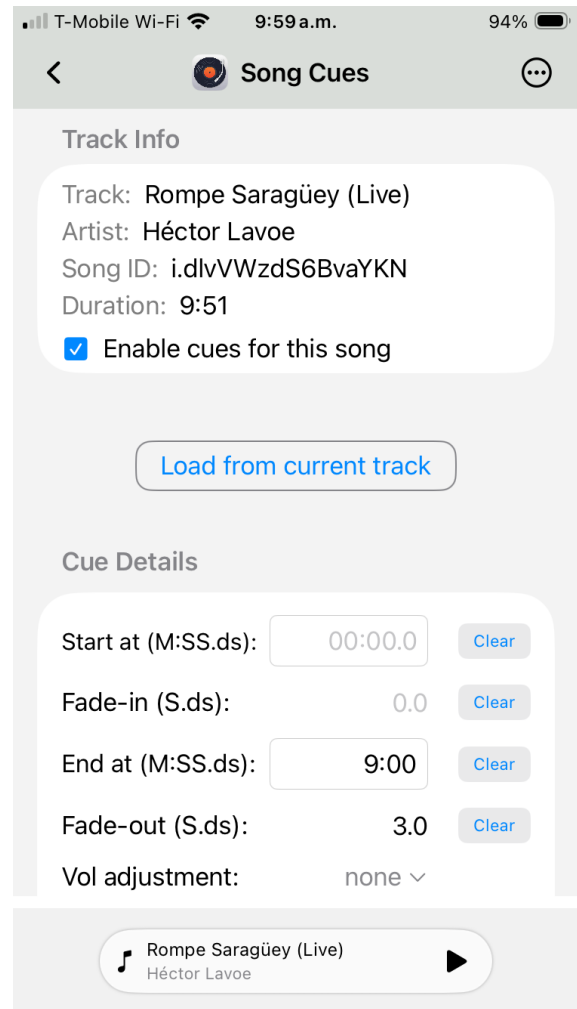
Fades can be up to ten seconds long. They can be entered as whole numbers (eg., 5) and may include deciseconds (eg., 5.5).

### 5. Volume adjustment:

This allows adjustments of one small increment louder or softer. The difference is more noticeable when adjusting down.

### 6. Delete cue:

This only deletes the cues for a particular song. It does not delete the song.



- Homepage and playlist page

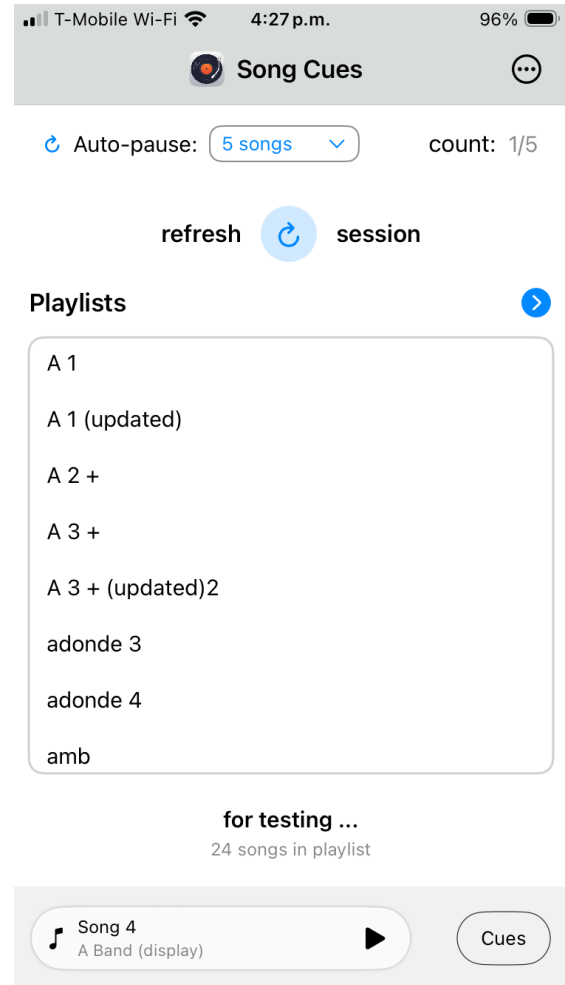
1. Auto-pause:

This feature will pause the music after five or ten songs, at which point the user can play another five or ten songs by pressing play again. Its default setting is Off.

The auto-pause counter displays the current number in sequence (eg., 1/5, 2/5, ...). The user can restart the sequence by pressing the refresh button next to "auto-pause". The app will apply a fade-out to the last song if the user owns that song.

2. Sessions:

When the listening mode is set to shuffle, the sessions feature allows the user to switch playlists and not hear the same song twice. The "refresh session" button will begin a new session. If the user wants to hear the same song again during the same session, he/she can press the back button, or can temporarily switch off shuffle mode.



- NowPlaying page

1. List of songs:

The user can see the list of upcoming songs or the song history by clicking the up/down arrow. The order of upcoming songs can be modified by clicking and dragging them.

2. SongCues logo next to the time slider:

That appears if there is a cue for that song.

→ Screen display during lockscreen mode

When the iPhone screen is locked, song information will only display for songs that do not have cues. The skip forward and skip back buttons have been disabled during lockscreen mode. To skip forward and back, unlock the iPhone and use the regular playback controls in the app.

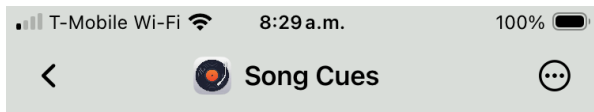
- Playlist settings page

1. Versions:

This allows the user to designate multiple versions of a song so that only one version will play when the playlist is shuffled. To do this, click "New", write the name of the song, check the applicable songs from the list of songs below and click "Save / Update". (see image below/left) This feature also works in conjunction with the Sessions feature.

2. Subgroups:

This allows the user to create subgroups so that only a percentage of those songs will play when the playlist is shuffled. To do this, click "New", write the name of the subgroup, check the applicable songs from the list of songs below, set the percentage to 0, 10, 25, 50, 75 or 100, and click "Save / Update". The percentage rounds up (eg., if there are 5 songs in a subgroup set to 50%, 3 of those songs will play in a shuffle). This feature also works in conjunction with the Sessions feature. (see image below/right)



Playlist Settings

for testing 2

Versions

Subgroups

Only one of the checked songs will play when the playlist is shuffled.

New

Corina Corina ▾

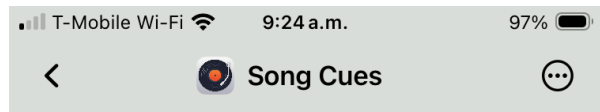
Edit

Enable Setting:

Save / Update

Songs in playlist

- Corrina, Corrina  
Bob Dylan
- Corrina, Corrina (Live at Gerde's Folk City, New York, NY - April 1962)  
Bob Dylan
- Corina Corina  
Christy Moore
- Appetizer 1



Playlist Settings

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Versions

Subgroups

Only a percentage of the checked songs will play when the playlist is shuffled.

New

EB ▾

Edit

Set percentage to: 50% ⬇

Enable Setting:

Save / Update

Songs in playlist

- Tswana Dub  
Intrusion
- Somasomasu  
Jasmon
- Longing  
Karsh Kale

### Backing up and Importing:

Cues can be backed up as a JSON file and can be imported in this iOS version. This will save time when switching phones, updating the app, or downloading the app on multiple devices, including a Mac computer. When importing cues, users have the option to Add (keep existing cues and add new cues from the imported file), Merge (keep existing cues, add new cues from the imported file, and update cues if they have changed), and Replace (overwrite all cues with the imported file). Backing up existing cues is recommended before importing. These options can be found in the dropdown menu on the app header on every page.

Playlist Settings can also be backed up as JSON files and imported in this iOS version. A playlist settings file only pertains to that playlist. When importing playlist settings, the imported settings will overwrite any existing settings for that playlist. Therefore, it is recommended to backup current playlist settings before importing other settings. These options can be found in a different dropdown menu on the Playlist Settings page, below the app header.

### Privacy Statement:

SongCues does not upload your playlists, cue data or playlist settings to our own servers. Cue data and playlist settings are stored locally on your device. When you choose to back up cues or settings, the file is created on your device and then shared only to the destination you select (for example, iCloud Drive, Files, email, or another app). SongCues uses Apple frameworks, including MusicKit and MediaPlayer, to read your Apple Music/iTunes library and playlists and to play songs from your library. For locally available cued songs, SongCues uses Apple's AVAudioEngine framework to play the audio on your device. Any communication with Apple Music or your Apple Music/iCloud Music Library is handled by Apple under your Apple account and Apple's privacy practices. Your device and iCloud backups may also include SongCues data, managed by Apple as part of your normal device backup settings.

### Frequently asked questions:

The website SongCues.com is the place for email feedback and frequently asked questions.



Create Cues for Your Songs