

# Praat Manual

## Download Link:

<http://www.fon.hum.uva.nl/Praat/>

choose the version for your operating system (top left corner)  
and install Praat with default settings

## Open Praat

1. 2 windows open: "Praat objects" and "Praat Picture"
2. close "Praat Picture"

### Record in Praat:

3. in "Praat objects", click on "New" and "Record mono/stereo sound"
4. click on "Record", say something into your microphone, and click "Stop"
5. click on "Save to list & Close" – the recording appears in the Objects list
6. Select your recording and click on "View & Edit" in the menu on the right hand side

### Use an existing recording:

3. in "Praat objects", click on "Open" and "Read from file"
4. browse and select your file
5. the recording appears in the Objects list
6. select your recording and click on "View & Edit" in the menu on the right hand side

*Welcome to Praat!*

## View a Recording

At the bottom left of the "View & Edit" window, there are five buttons:

<b>all</b>	<b>in</b>	<b>out</b>	<b>sel</b>	<b>bk</b>
view all	zoom in	zoom out	zoom to selection (select passage with cursor)	back to last zoom angle
CTRL + A	CTRL + I	CTRL + O	CTRL + N	CTRL + B

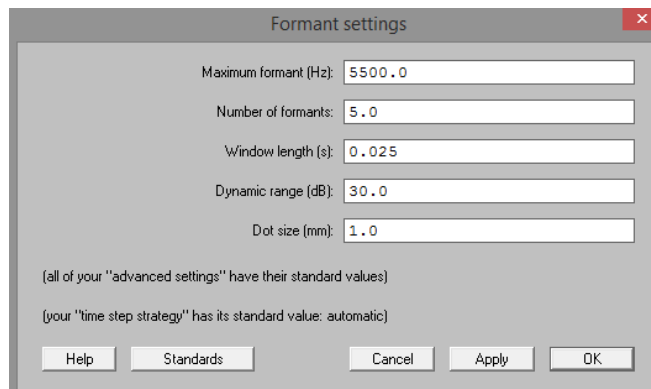
## Play a Recording

- Tab: plays from cursor position to end of visible window OR: plays selection
- Shift + Tab: plays visible window

## Adjust Praat's display

Visual aids can be added to or hidden from the wave and spectrum displays: pitch (intonation), intensity (volume), formants (tongue position, etc.), pulses (cycles). In the respective menus, it is possible to select which aids are to be displayed or not displayed.

*Note: Praat will only display the spectrogram and its visual aids for selections of less than 10 secs.*

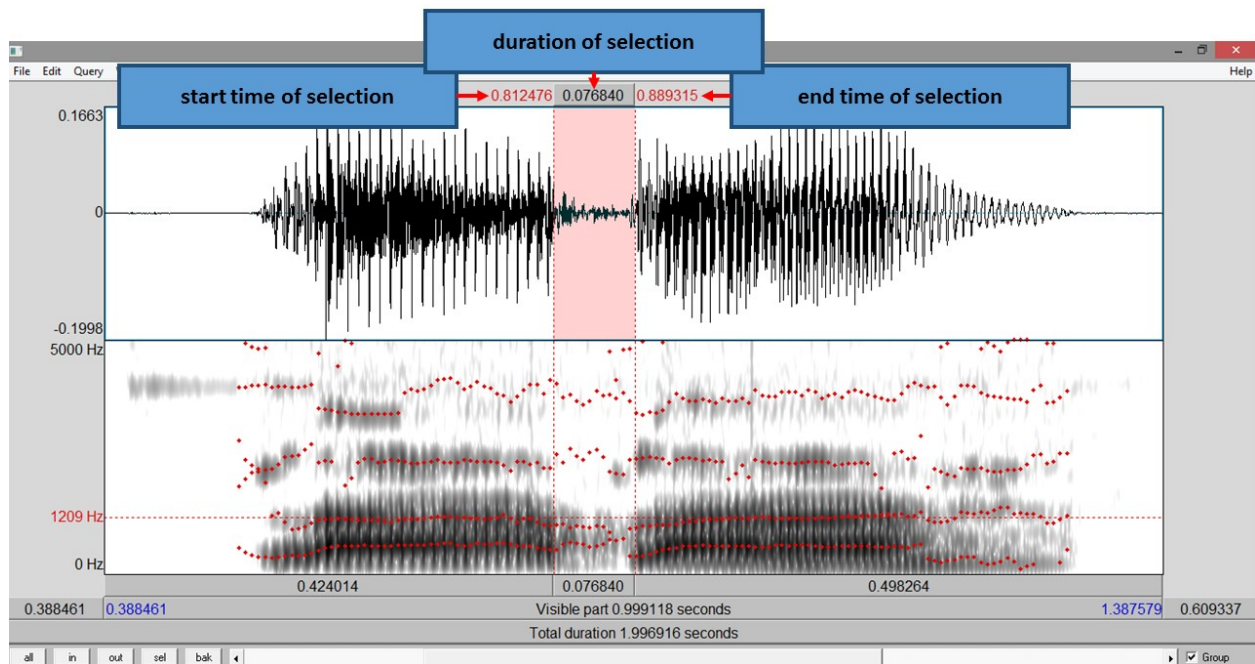


### Formant settings

The standard settings are, in most cases, very good. Tweaking the parameters might make Praat less erroneous – but it will also change the formants. Use with caution and don't analyse a recording (or even a corpus) with different settings!

### Spectrogram settings

Changing these will not affect formants, they only change the visual representation of the spectrogram. Tip: Change the dynamic range downwards for a lighter picture (useful for recordings with steady background noise), and upwards for a darker picture.



### Formant Frequency Analysis

Press F1, F2, F3 or F4 to get the frequency of the first four formants for the cursor position OR, in case a selection has been made, the mean formant frequencies for that selection.

*Note: "Show formants" needs to be activated.*

### Pitch/Intonation Analysis

Press F5 to get the fundamental frequency (= Formant F0 = Pitch) for the cursor position OR, in case a selection has been made, the mean formant frequency for that selection.

*Note: "Show pitch" needs to be activated.*

### Annotations

Annotations are very useful to add marks and preserve them. For segmenting, transcribing, commenting, or to set measurement points.

1. In "Praat Objects" click on a recording
2. Click 'Annotate'
3. Name every tier (separate tiers by spaces):  
Tiers only mentioned in the first box will create tiers for intervals,  
Tiers repeated in the second box will create tiers for points.
4. Apply/OK
5. Select the sound file and the newly generated TextGrid file and click on "View & Edit"
6. In the "View & Edit" window, there are now options to remove tiers or text, to duplicate and add

## Save Files

### Save a TextGrid

- In the “View & Edit” mode, go to File\Save or click CTRL+S.
- In “Praat Objects”, select the textgrid from the Objects list that you want to save and click on ‘save’

### Save a Recording

If a passage has been recorded with Praat, do not forget to save it in the “Praat Objects” window:

1. select the recording from the Objects list that you want to save
2. click on ‘save’ and choose the preferred format (WAV or AIFF recommended)

## **Further Information:**

For more detailed description of what Praat is able to do, check the “Functionality” sections with a great number of tutorials under the following link:

<http://www.fon.hum.uva.nl/Praat/>