

Own the music you play.

Stream your own library with Navidrome.

Your music collection, streamed to every device through a huge ecosystem of apps — no subscription, no catalog that shrinks under you, and it runs on hardware as small as a Raspberry Pi.

Who this is for

Anyone with a music collection (ripped CDs, purchases, downloads) who's done renting access to a catalog that changes. Comfortable running a small always-on server.

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What Navidrome is — and isn't

Spotify is a subscription: cancel and the music stops, and the catalog changes without you.

Navidrome is the opposite model — it streams *your own* music library from your server to any device. It's the Jellyfin of music: free, open source, and yours.

Read this first

Navidrome does not come with a catalog. It plays music you already have as files on disk — CDs you've ripped, tracks you've bought, downloads you own. If you don't have your own files, this isn't a Spotify catalog replacement; it's a way to own and stream what you have.

What you gain

No subscription · your library never changes on you · apps on phones, desktops, cars and TVs via the Subsonic ecosystem · a tiny footprint (a 300 GB library uses under 50 MB of RAM). What you drop: the monthly bill and the rented catalog.

1 · What you need

Navidrome is remarkably light — it runs happily on a Raspberry Pi or any old machine, using around 50 MB of RAM. You need Docker, and your music files on a disk the server can read. The Docker image includes FFmpeg, so transcoding works out of the box.

2 · Install with Docker

A minimal docker-compose.yml. Point the second volume at your music folder (read-only is fine):

```
services:
  navidrome:
    image: deluan/navidrome:latest
    restart: unless-stopped
    ports:
      - "4533:4533"
    volumes:
      - ./data:/data
      - /path/to/music:/music:ro
```

Start it with `docker compose up -d` and open `http://SERVER-IP:4533`.

3 · First run & library scan

- Create your admin user on first load.
- Navidrome scans the mounted music folder automatically and keeps watching it — add files later and they appear on their own.
- Good tags matter: clean artist/album/track metadata makes browsing far nicer.

4 · Play it anywhere

Navidrome speaks the Subsonic/OpenSubsonic API, so you use one of many third-party apps rather than an official one. Install a Subsonic-compatible app on your phone or desktop, enter your server URL and login, and your library is there — including offline downloads in most apps.

5 · Verify

- Confirm your library scanned and albums show artwork.
- Play a track in the web player, then from a phone app over your network.
- Keep your music files backed up — Navidrome streams them but isn't itself a backup.
- Once it covers your listening, cancel Spotify (or keep it only for discovery).

Common snags

Symptom	Fix
Library is empty	Check the music volume path is mounted and readable.
Messy artists/albums	Fix the file tags; Navidrome reads metadata, not filenames.
App won't connect	Use the full server URL and the same login; check the port is open.

Found this useful?

This guide is free — pay what you want if it saved you time. More offline & one-time-purchase alternatives to subscription apps, plus other migration guides, at payoncehq.com.

Sources: official Navidrome documentation (navidrome.org). Details current as of 2026; check the project for the latest. Independent guide, not affiliated with Navidrome or Spotify.