

Watching TV Shows on the Internet and Keeping Them

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There are many places to watch your favorite TV shows on the internet.

Requirements

Basically, you need a broadband connection. How fast depends upon your patience.

When a show is streamed, it is generally temporarily downloaded to your computer before it starts playing. The slower your broadband connection, the more time you will have to wait before the show can be viewed. For this reason, a dial-up connection really isn't feasible.

As far as requirements, that's just about it. You'll need the later versions of an internet browser (IE, FireFox), and you may be asked to download Flashplayer at the site. Each site has their own requirements, and they'll let you know if you need to install anything special.

Online Sites

Show sites: The web sites for your shows generally have current episodes available for viewing. They may not be available for long – generally a few weeks is standard.

Netflix : If you have a NetFlix account, you have access to their “instant view” movies and DVDs.

Here are more (not all have been tested personally by the author)

Free Tv (<http://www.freetvonline.com/>) lists thousands of TV links, Movie links, and Live TV channels online.

FreeTube (<http://freetube.us.tc/>) Completely free alternative to cable television that lets you watch tv channels and TV shows online using just your browser.

Tape it of the Internet (<http://tapeitofftheinternet.com/>) Over 2000+ TV shows or 90,000+ episodes, including all the big shows like Lost, Prison Break, and more.

Streamic (<http://www.streamick.com>) More then 300 real TV channels to choose from including NBC, ABC, ESPN, BBC1 and many more, organized in categories and ranked by the site users)

TVlinks (<http://www.tv-links.co.uk/>)A directory that amalgamates the most popular tv shows, cartoon & anime series.

PPStream (<http://www.ppstream.com/>)Sports, movies - all in one please. Just choose a show from the list of available channels)

PeekVid (<http://peekvid.com/>)Over 700 episodes of popular shows such as 24, Buffy, Desperate Housewives, Family Guy. Shows can be downloaded

PPlive (<http://www.pplive.com/en/>) A popular service for watching many foreign channels

TV-Video (<http://tv-video.net/>) All the latest TV shows as they aired including 24, Smallville, Prison Break, Lost, etc.

Chooseandwatch (<http://www.chooseandwatch.com/>) It’s a free TV portal where you can watch more than 250 online TV channels. Some of them have to be good.

Channelking (<http://www.channelking.com/>) Channel King provides the best selection of free Internet TV channels. Free broadband TV channels from around the world enable you to watch TV from anywhere with broadband.

Hulu (www.hulu.com)- Hulu offers premium videos -- everything from hit TV shows to blockbuster movies and web originals. Watch the latest episode of this season's hottest shows, then catch entire runs of your favorite classics. Or choose an all-out action movie or a sing-along web original featuring Hollywood's finest.

Joost (www.joost.com) - What's Joost? It's a way to watch videos – music, TV, movies and more – over the Internet. Joost allows you to search in "traditional" ways – by title or category – or you can find suggestions from other people on Joost. They may be your friends, or they may just be people who have something in common with you – but either way, they can direct you to great things to watch.

Using BitTorrent and μ Torrent

Now, how do you keep those videos you've just been watching? Some sites allow you to download the videos. There are programs available that will capture streaming video (search Google for programs), but what if you want to find an entire season of a TV Show?

One solution is using Bit Torrent. Bit Torrent is a peer to peer network. A file provider makes his file (or group of files) available to the network. This is called a *seed* and allows others, named *peers*, to connect and download the file. Each peer who downloads a part of the data makes it available to other peers to download. After the file is successfully downloaded by a peer, many continue to make the data available, becoming additional seeds. This distributed nature of BitTorrent leads to a viral spreading of a file throughout peers. As more seeds get added, it's easier to successfully connect and download the file.

BitTorrent uses its own terminology that you should become familiar with:

- **announce**
Client announces that it wants to join the swarm and that server should add it to the peers in that swarm.
- **choked**
Describes a peer to whom the client refuses to send file pieces. A choke can be because the second client is a seed, in which case it does not want any pieces (ie. it is completely uninterested), or the client is already uploading at its full capacity (ie. the value for max_uploads has been reached)
- **client**
The program that enables p2p file sharing via the BitTorrent protocol. Examples of clients include μ Torrent and Vuze.
- **downloader**
A downloader is any peer that does not have the entire file and is downloading the file.
- **hash**
The hash is a string of alphanumeric characters in the .torrent file that the client uses to verify the data that is being transferred. Every piece received is first checked against the hash and, if it fails verification, the data is discarded and requested again.
- **index**
An index is a list of .torrent files (usually including descriptions and other information) managed by a website and available for searches. An index website can also be a tracker. Indexes are found on the site Torrentz.com, for example.
- **leech**
A leech is usually a peer who has a negative effect on the swarm by having a very poor share ratio - in other words, downloading much more than they upload. Most leeches are users on asymmetric internet connections and do not leave their BitTorrent client open to seed the file after their download has completed. The term leech, however, can be used simply to describe a peer - or any client that does not have 100% of the data.
- **lurker**
A lurker is a user that only downloads files from the group but does not add new content. Unlike a leech, a lurker will seed what he or she has downloaded.

- **p2p**
Stands for "peer to peer" which is the technology used for file sharing among computer users over the internet.
- **peer**
A peer is one instance of a BitTorrent client running on a computer on the Internet to which other clients connect and transfer data. Usually a peer does not have the complete file, but only parts of it.
- **piece**
This refers to the torrented files being divided up into equal specific sized pieces (ie 512Kb, 1Mb). The pieces are distributed in a random fashion among peers in order to optimize trading efficiency.
- **seeder**
A seeder is a peer that has a complete copy of the torrent and still offers it for upload. The more seeders there are, the better the chances are for completion of the file.
- **snubbed**
An uploading client is flagged as snubbed if the downloading client has not received any data from it in over 60 seconds.
- **swarm**
Together, all peers (including seeders) sharing a torrent are called a swarm. For example, six ordinary peers and two seeders make a swarm of eight.
- **torrent**
A torrent can mean either a .torrent metadata file or all files described by it, depending on context. The torrent file contains metadata about all the files it makes downloadable, including their names and sizes and checksums of all pieces in the torrent. It also contains the address of a tracker that coordinates communication between the peers in the swarm.
- **tracker**
A tracker is a server that keeps track of which seeds and peers are in the swarm. Clients report information to the tracker periodically and in exchange receive information about other clients to which they can connect. The tracker is not directly involved in the data transfer and does not have a copy of the file.

The program that I use most is μ Torrent. μ Torrent runs in the background, is very to use, and provides a scheduler for controlling the broadband rate (really useful if you're downloading a torrent and have to work from home, for example.)

μ Torrent is available from [www. **uTorrent.com**](http://www.uTorrent.com). μ Torrent is constantly updated, so your best option is to download it directly from their web site at <http://www.utorrent.com/download.php>.. There is a help file that you can download separately. Download the build labeled **Stable**.

Installing μ Torrent

Simply double-click on the exe file, and μ Torrent will start installing. After installation, you will probably have to allow μ Torrent to not be blocked by your firewall program (it will need to access the internet and act as a server).

Configuring μ Torrent

There are a few things you'll need to configure in μ Torrent:

- port forwarding and speed tests (the first time you open μ Torrent)

- locations for downloading and completed torrents

The contents of these directories will be viewable by μ Torrent. Because of μ Torrent's safety features, no other directories can be viewed on your computer, and no connections can travel beyond the specified directory.

Speed and port forwarding

When you open μ Torrent for the first time, the μ Torrent Speed Guide helps you select the optimal settings for your Internet connection.

1. In the wizard, select your **upload** speed from the dropdown menu.
2. If you do not know the information, test your Internet connection speed by clicking the button.
3. You will be brought to a page that lists mirror sites. Select the mirror closest to where you live.

When you are running the speed test, make sure you are not using your Internet connection for anything besides the test. If you have any other computer on your network, disconnect them or shut them off before running the test.

4. Run the test several times, and take the average of your upload speed given in the tests.
5. Select the option closest to your average upload speed from the **Connection Type** dropdown list.

Do not select an option that is much higher than the speed tests, since this option will not help you download faster and might actually slow your speed.

6. Click **Next**.
7. On this page, a port is randomly selected for you the first time the Speed Guide is displayed.
8. After you select your port, click **Test if port is forwarded properly** to check that the port is open.

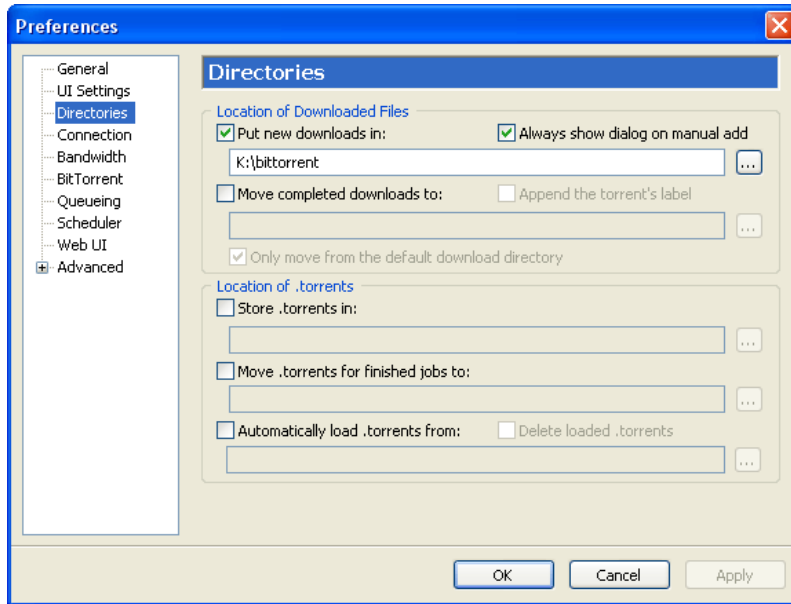
A port must be open for μ Torrent to listen for incoming connections on. If you are having trouble opening a port, refer to the port forwarding guide contained in the μ Torrent online help.

9. Click **Use Selected Settings** and you're done!

If you need to return to this wizard to make a change, select "*Options*" then "*Speed Guide...*" (or press Ctrl+G) in μ Torrent, or click on the network status icon in the status bar.

Locations for downloading and completed torrents

1. To configure the directories, click **Preferences** (the yellow gear icon on the toolbar).
2. Select **Directories** from the list on the left.



3. Enter the directory you want to use for the new downloads.

This directory is the default location that the contents of newly added torrent jobs will be downloaded to.

4. *Optional.* Click **Always show dialog on manual add** to request where you'd like to store the download. If unchecked, μ Torrent automatically sets the download location to the specified location and adds the torrent job to the torrent jobs list.
5. **Move completed downloads to** specifies the location that torrent contents that have finished downloading should be moved to. Files are moved immediately after the torrent job finishes downloading and the files are written to disk.
6. Use the default settings for the following options (unless you want to specify setting information for the .torrents):
 - **Store .torrents in** -- sets the location that μ Torrent should save .torrent files to. By default, μ Torrent will save these files to the settings directory.
 - **Move .torrents for finished jobs to** -- moves .torrent files to the specified location after it is completed. By default, these files remain in the same location that they were first copied to.
 - **Automatically load .torrents in directory** -- check the specified directory every second for new new .torrent files, and automatically load them. The directory specified here must be different from the directories specified in the .torrent storage settings.
 - **Delete loaded .torrents** -- delete the .torrent file when it is auto-loaded. Normally, if this option is not checked, μ Torrent appends .loaded to the extension to indicate that it has been loaded and to prevent μ Torrent from trying to load the .torrent file again.

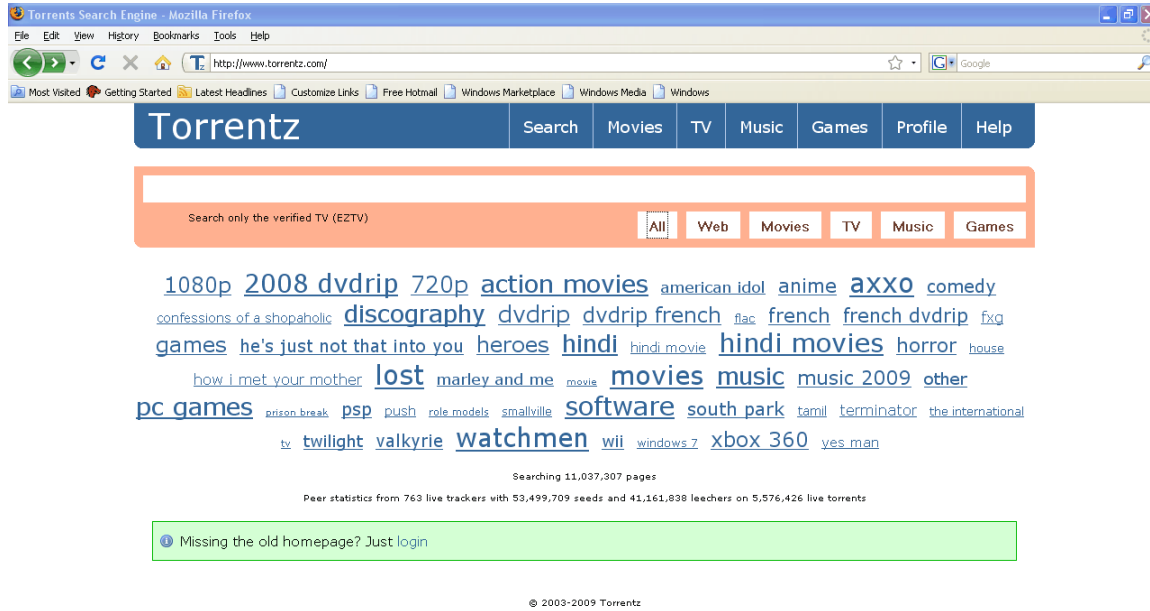
7. Click **OK** to save your settings.

Now you're ready to download!

Downloading torrents

Open your web browser and go to a torrent search site. I use Torrentz (www.torrentz.com), which searches thru several reputable torrent sites for the files.

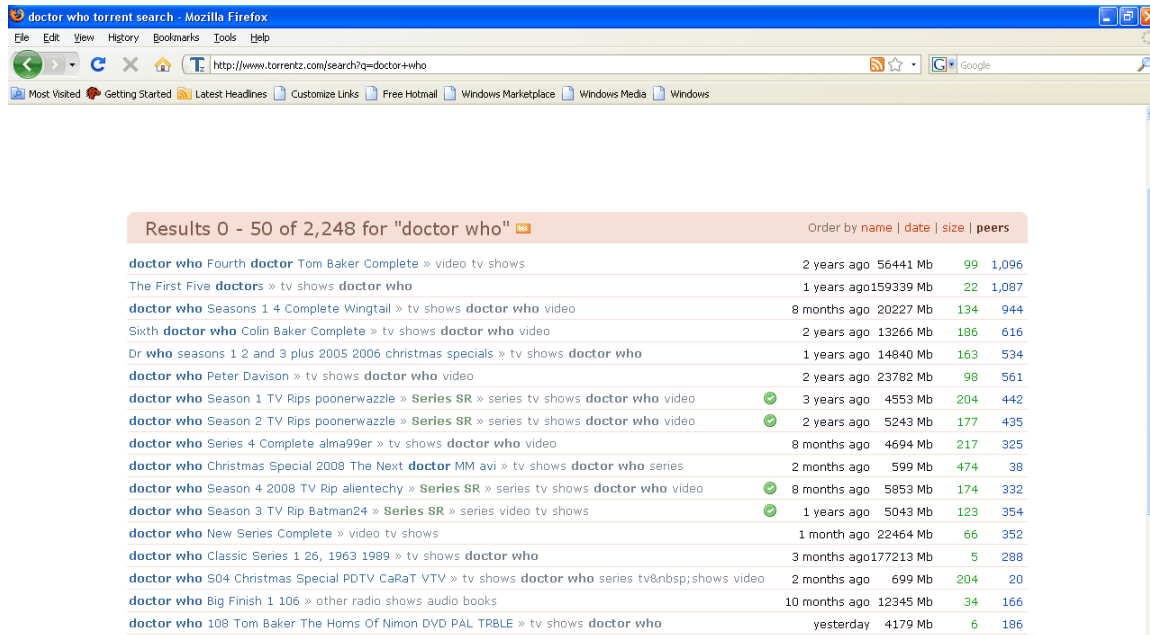
1. Go to www.torrentz.com.



2. Enter the search term into the field, and select one of the following searches:

- **All** – all live torrents (default)
- **Web** – search the web
- **Movies , TV, Music, Games** – search the verified movies, TV shows, music, or games. These torrents are all verified as being complete and clean of malware.

The following example uses Doctor Who.

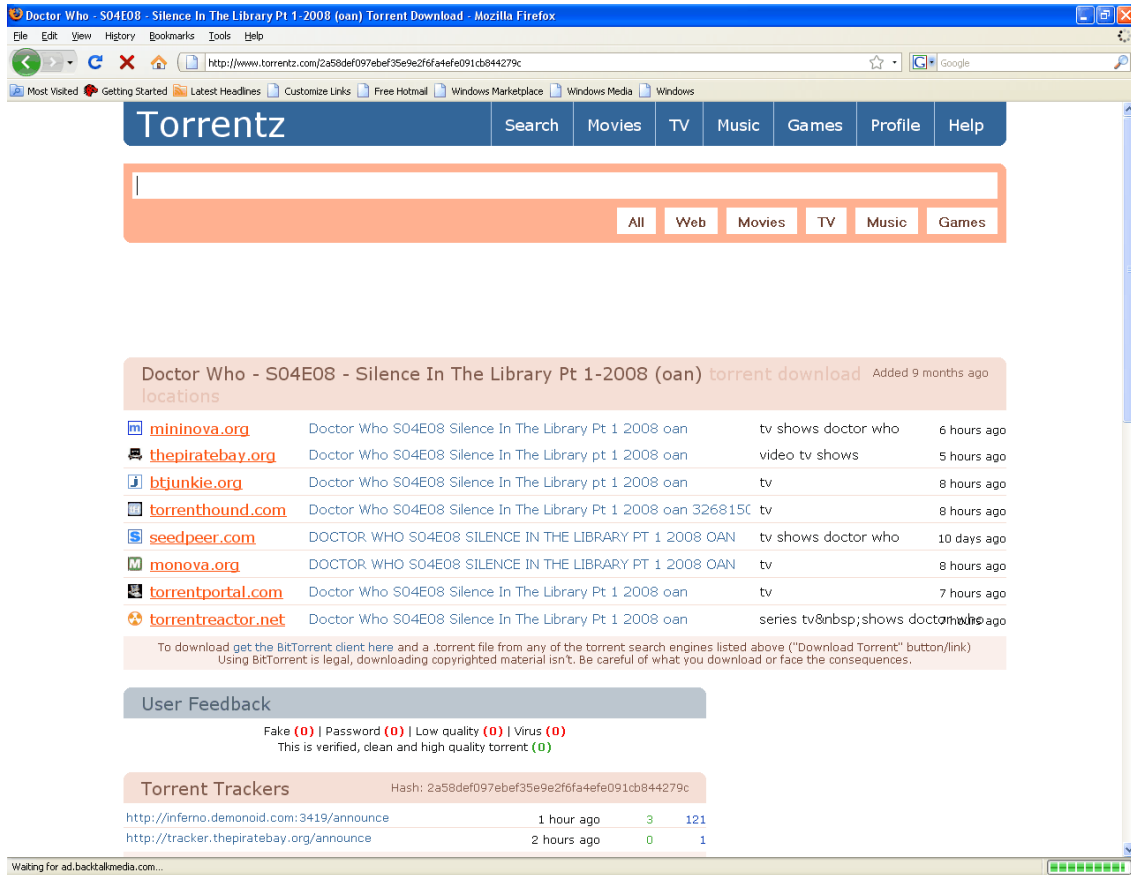


The list includes:

- **name** of the torrent
- **age** (when it was introduced)

- **size** of the file
- **number of seeds and leechers** (sources for the files). If a file has a low number, it will take much longer to download, since there aren't very many sources. Go for high numbers.

3. Click a file name. You are taken to a page that lists where the torrent can be downloaded from:



4. Select a location (for example, mininova.org). The web page that appears lists the actual torrent. Some torrent sites require a login; you can go back to the site page and try another site. Ultimately the torrent is the same; the location is the only thing that is different.

Doctor Who - S04E08 - Silence In The Library Pt 1-2008 (oan) : TV Shows > Doctor Who - Mininova - Mozilla Firefox

http://www.mininova.org/tor/1460081

mini nova All torrents Search

Home Browse categories Upload Advanced search Community About Search cloud

Location: Mininova > Categories > TV Shows > Doctor Who > Doctor Who - S04E08 - Silence In The Library Pt 1-2008 (oan)

Download the Mininova toolbar! Install the Mininova toolbar and stay up-to-date with the latest torrents. It's free and fast, installation takes a few seconds. www.mininova.org/toolbar.php

Funny videos on Snotr.com! Check out our other website: Snotr.com! Funny videos (safe for work)... if you like Mininova, you'll love Snotr.com! www.snotr.com

General information Details Comments (0) + Thanks (0) Report a problem

Doctor Who - S04E08 - Silence In The Library Pt 1-2008 (oan)

[Download this torrent!](#) or use the [magnet link](#)

3 seeds, 116 leechers

To start this P2P download, you have to install a BitTorrent client like [Vuze](#).

Category: TV Shows > Doctor Who

Total size: 349.32 megabyte

Added: 284 days ago by [oneanight](#)

Share ratio: 3 seeds, 116 leechers

Last updated: 2 days ago

Downloads: 10,268

Alternative download: This download might also be available on Usenet. [Click here to download the UseNeXT client.](#) Or search for [similar torrents](#).

What is your 2009 Credit Score?

Excellent	750 - 840
Good	660 - 749
Fair	620 - 659
Poor	340 - 619
I Don't Know	???

[Find Out INSTANTLY!](#)

Free score.com

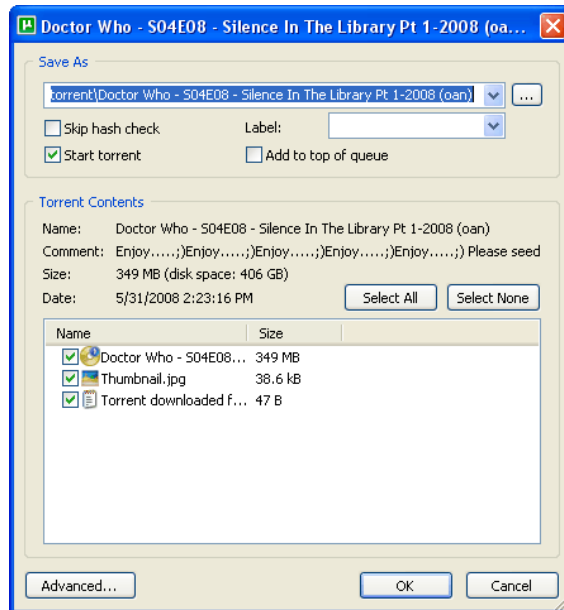
Select Your Laptop

Apple MacBook

Hewlett-Packard

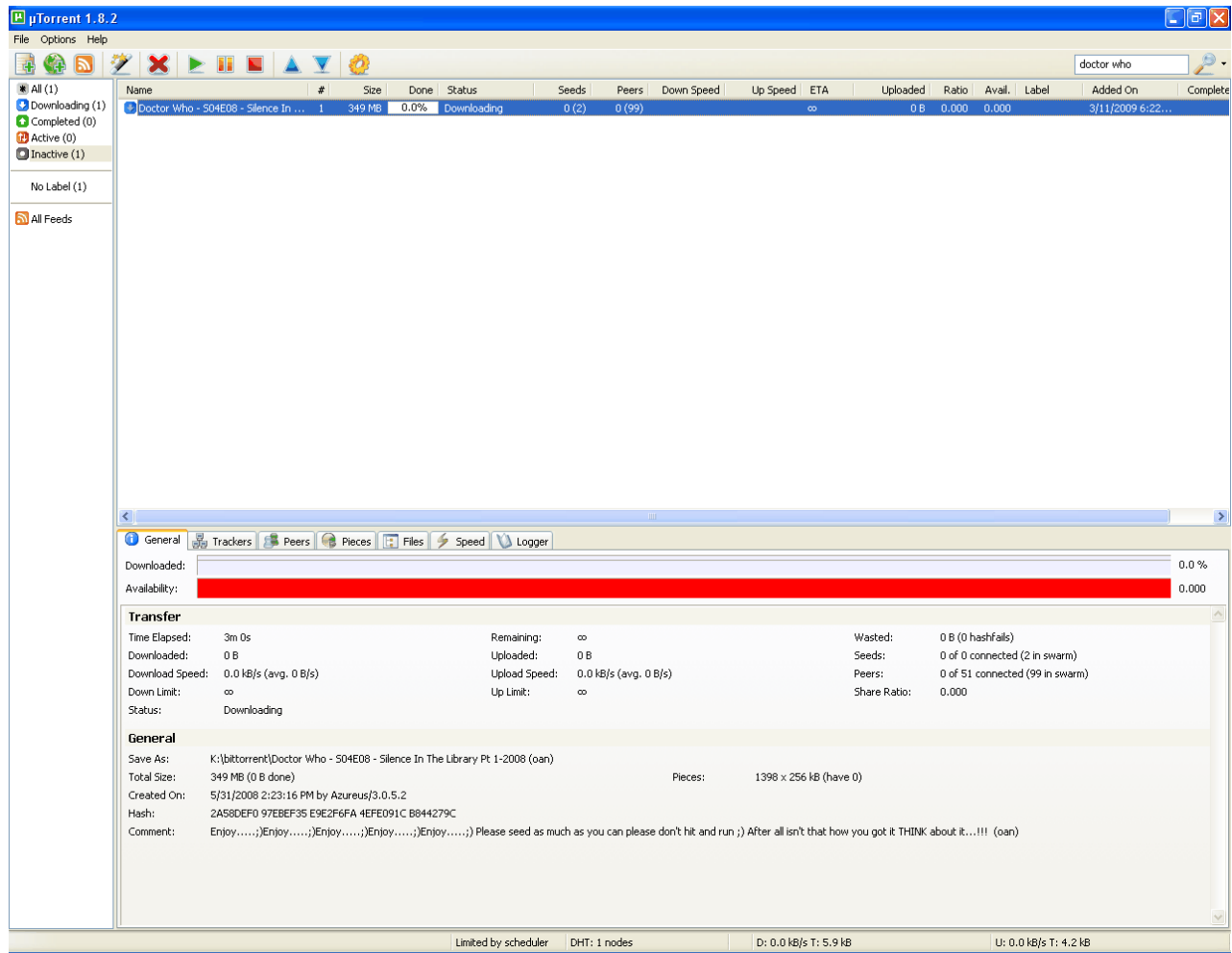
Acer

5. Click the download link, and μ Torrent will be opened by your browser. The following dialog box will be displayed:



This box lets you specify what μ Torrent will download – use the options selected by default.

6. Click **OK** to load the torrent into μ Torrent.



This is the main uTorrent screen. The torrent jobs list is where your torrent jobs are displayed, along with plenty of information for each of them. The tabs on the bottom part of the screen display information about the torrent file .The following information is displayed for the torrent:

- **Name** - the name of the torrent job.
 - means the torrent job is downloading without issue
 - means the torrent job is a queued download
 - means the torrent job is downloading, but there is a tracker error
 - means the torrent job is seeding without issue
 - means the torrent job is a queued seed
 - means the torrent job is seeding, but there is a tracker error
 - means the torrent job is paused
 - means the torrent job is stopped, but hasn't finished downloading
 - means the torrent job is stopped, and has finished downloading
 - means the torrent job has a critical error (check the Status column)
- **#** - the torrent job's place in the download queue. When a torrent job stops or finishes, the next lowest numbered torrent job that is queued for download will start automatically.

- **Size** - the complete size of the torrent contents, regardless of whether you are using selective file downloading on that torrent job or not.
- **Completed** - the total amount of data you have in the torrent contents that passed the hash checks, as well as any incomplete pieces currently in progress.
- **Downloaded** - the total amount of data you have downloaded, including those that were wasted or failed the hash checks.
- **Remaining** - the amount of data left for μ Torrent to download before it finishes downloading the torrent job. Note that this column takes selective file downloading into account, so only the data you select to be downloaded will be counted. If no data is left to be downloaded, this column will be blank.
- **Done** - the approximate percent of the torrent job that μ Torrent has completed.
- **Status** - the current status of the torrent job:
 - **Downloading** - the torrent job is currently downloading.
 - **Finished** - the torrent job has been stopped after it reached seeding mode.
 - **Initial-Seeding** - the torrent job is being seeded in Initial Seeding mode.
 - **Paused** - the torrent job is paused, but not stopped (still connected to peers).
 - **Queued** - the torrent job is waiting for another torrent job to finish downloading before starting.
 - **Queued Seed** - the torrent job is waiting for another torrent job to finish seeding before starting.
 - **Seeding** - the torrent job is finished downloading, and is currently in seeding mode.
 - **Stopped** - the torrent job is stopped (not transferring, and not connected to any peers).
 - **[F] Downloading** - the torrent job is forced started and downloading, so it is outside of the queue order.
 - **[F] Initial-Seeding** - the torrent job is forced started and seeding in Initial Seeding mode, so it is outside of the queue order.
 - **[F] Seeding** - the torrent job is forced started and seeding, so it is outside of the queue order.
 - **Previously Downloaded** - the item is a part of an RSS feed, and was previously added to the torrent jobs list (it is listed in the RSS History tab).
 - **RSS** - the item is a part of an RSS feed, and not yet added to the torrent queue.
- **Seeds** - the number of seeds you are connected to, and the number of seeds in the swarm within the parentheses.
- **Peers** - the number of peers you are connected to, and the number of peers in the swarm within the parentheses.
- **Seeds/Peers** - the ratio of seeds to peers. Its value is by dividing the number in the parentheses under the Seeds column by the number in the parentheses under the Peers column.
- **Down Speed** - the current speed at which data is being downloaded for the individual torrent job. If the download rate is negligible, this column will be blank.
- **Up Speed** - the current speed at which data is being uploaded for the individual torrent job. If the upload rate is negligible, this column will be blank.
- **ETA** - the estimated amount of time needed for μ Torrent to finish downloading the torrent job.

- **Uploaded** - the total amount of data you have uploaded.
 - **Ratio** - the ratio of uploaded data to downloaded data.
 - **Availability** - the number of copies of the torrent contents that are distributed in the swarm.
 - **Label** - the label set for the torrent job.
 - **Added On** - the date and time that the torrent job was added to the torrent jobs list.
 - **Completed On** - the date and time that the torrent job finished downloading. If the torrent job has yet to be completed, this column will be blank.
 - **Tracker** - the first working tracker's base URL.
 - **Up Limit** - the maximum upload rate limit set on the individual torrent job. If no limit is set, this column will be blank.
 - **Down Limit** - the maximum download rate limit set on the individual torrent job. If no limit is set, this column will be blank.
 - **Bandwidth Allocation** - the bandwidth allocation given to the torrent job (High, Normal, or Low).
 - **Tracker Status** - the tracker's status (if the tracker is blocked, it will appear here).
 - **Debug** displays information that might be useful in debugging problems.
 - **Last Active** - the amount of time that has elapsed since μ Torrent last finished transferring a block of data for the torrent job.
 - **Elapsed** - the total amount of time that μ Torrent has had the torrent job started for since it was added.
 - **Source URL** - the URL that the source .torrent file is located at. The source URL is only applicable for RSS items and torrent jobs added from URL.
 - **Episode** - the episode number of the torrent job, if applicable.
 - **Format** - the video quality of the torrent job, assuming it is a video and is an RSS item.
 - **Codec** - the codec that the video was encoded in assuming it is a video and is an RSS item.
7. Once you start downloading, you can minimize μ Torrent (it will run in the background). Do not turn μ Torrent off until you have finished downloading the file.
 8. When the file (or files) are downloaded, you can exit uTorrent. Select **File > Exit**. μ Torrent will not exit if you click the red X in the right corner – that makes μ Torrent run in the background.

Note: It's customary to leave your computer and uTorrent running after you've downloaded your files so that you can seed the files to other downloaders.

After downloading the torrent

You should be able to simply play the file after downloading the torrent. Navigate to the directory that the torrent was downloaded to and double-click on the file.

If you can't play the file, you may need to install a codec file (a file that tells Windows how to play the file). Try downloading the Windows Essentials Codec Pack from <http://www.mediacodec.org/>.