

# CD-RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS

## Introduction

### What's CD-R? CD-RW?

CD-R is short for "CD-Recordable". Recordable CDs are WORM (Write Once, Read Multiple) media that work just like standard CDs. The advantage of CD-R over other types of optical media is that you can use the discs with a standard CD player. The disadvantage is that you can't reuse a disc.

A related technology called CD-Rewritable (CD-RW) allows you to erase discs and reuse them, but the CD-RW media doesn't work in all players. CD-Rewritable drives are able to write both CD-R and CD-RW discs.

CD-R drives can also read CD-ROMs and play audio CDs.

All CD recorders can read CDs and CD-ROMs, just like a standard CD-ROM drive.

A feature of many CD-R drives, called multi-session recording, enables you to keep adding data to a CD-ROM over time. This is extremely important if you want to use the CD-R drive to create backup CD-ROMs.

## Creating a Data CD using EasyCD Creator on a PC:

### a) Benefits and use of a Data CD.

- A Data CD is a good alternative to storing information on a floppy or zip disk. Data CDs hold more information than floppy or zip disks and are more durable. They are especially helpful for backing up large files.
- Data CDs can only be read on a computer.
- Data CDs can be burned onto CD-Rs (CD-ROMs which can only be written on once) or CD-RWs (CD-ReWritables which can be used multiple times.) For instructions, see [Re-Writing on a CD-RW](#).

### b) Steps for burning a Data CD

1. From the **Start Menu**, go to **All Programs > Roxio Easy CD Creator 5 > Applications > Easy CD Creator**.
2. Click **OK** if a license agreement window appears on the screen.
3. Insert a blank, writable or rewritable CD in the recordable/rewritable CD drive.
4. Select **File > New CD Project > Data CD**.
5. Save copies of any files you would like to put on the CD in a folder on the Desktop, especially if they are on floppy or zip disks.

6. The field under **Select source files** shows the current folder. Choose the *Desktop* from the drop-down menu. A list of your files should appear in the upper half of the screen. When found, click on the files to select them, then click on **Add** on the toolbar. The files will be added to the Data CD Project in the bottom window.
7. In the EasyCD Creator window, click on the red **Record** button. The Record CD Setup box will appear, where you can choose the speed for burning the CD. It is recommended that you burn the CD at 4x (600kb/sec).
8. Click on **Options**, it will give you more options for the burning process. Select **Test and Record CD**. Then click **Start Recording**. The testing phase will run prior to burning the CD and then the burning of the CD will follow.

### **Creating an Audio CD using EasyCD Creator on a PC:**

1. From the **Start Menu**, go to **All Programs > Roxio Easy CD Creator 5 > Applications > Easy CD Creator**.
2. From the **File** menu choose **New CD Project > Music CD**.
3. Insert a blank, writable or rewritable CD in the recordable/rewritable CD drive.
4. If the files you would like to put on the CD are on CDs, save the files you would like to burn in a folder on the Desktop. To copy a whole CD, use the instructions in the [Copying a CD using EasyCD Creator](#) section.
5. The field under **Select source files** shows the current folder. Choose the *Desktop* from the drop-down menu. A list of your audio files should appear in the upper half of the screen. When found, click on the files to select them. Then click on **Add** on the toolbar. The files will be added to the Music CD Project in the bottom window.
6. After you have added all the files you would like on the CD, you can reorder the files to fix track order. To do this, click on the file and drag it to the position you would like it to be in. Then, click on the red **Record** button. The CD Creation Setup box will appear, where you can choose the speed for burning the CD. It is recommended that you burn the CD at 4x (600kb/sec).
7. Click on **Options**, it will give you more options for the burning process. Select **Test and Record CD**. Then click **Start Recording**. The testing phase will run prior to burning the CD and then the burning of the CD will follow.
8. The Audio CD you just burned can be played on your home or car stereo CD player. In addition, an Audio CD can also be played on any computer that has a CD-ROM and software installed for playing audio files.

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### **Copying a CD using EasyCD Creator on a PC:**

If you are using EasyCD Creator on a PC with only one CD-ROM drive:

1. Insert the CD containing the information you would like to burn, in the recordable/rewritable CD drive.

2. From the **Start Menu**, go to **All Programs > Roxio Easy CD Creator 5 > Applications > Disc Copier**.
3. Read the license agreement and click **OK** only if you own the copyright for the CD or have permission to copy from the copyright owner.
4. In the Disc Copier window, click on the Advanced tab.
5. Make sure Buffer Underrun Prevention is checked.
6. Make sure the *Copy source Disc to the hard drive first* is checked, and select a location for the temporary files to be saved.
7. Press **Copy** to start. The system will scan the disk and start copying.
8. You will see a message that CD-Writing is in Process. This is actually only a test run. After the test run is complete, click **Yes** to proceed with writing.
9. When the Disc Copier has finished copying from the CD, it will ask for a blank CD. Insert a blank, writable or rewritable CD in the recordable/rewritable CD drive and click **OK**.
10. The files from the original CD will be copied on the blank CD.

If you are using EasyCD Creator in Knapp:

1. Insert a blank, writable or rewritable CD in the recordable/rewritable CD drive.
2. Insert the CD containing the information you would like to burn, in the DVD drive.
3. From the **Start Menu**, go to **All Programs > Roxio Easy CD Creator 5 > Applications > Disc Copier**.
4. Read the license agreement and click **OK** only if you own the copyright for the CD or have permission to copy from the copyright owner.
5. The CD Copier window will appear, press **Copy** to start. The system will scan the disks and start copying.
6. You will see a message that CD-Writing is in Process. This is actually only a test run. After the test run is complete, click **Yes** to proceed with writing.

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### **Rewriting on a CD-RW using EasyCD Creator on a PC:**

1. Insert the CD-RW in the recordable/rewritable CD drive.
2. From the **Start Menu**, go to **All Programs > Roxio Easy CD Creator 5 > Applications > Easy CD Creator**.
3. Click on the **Disc** menu in the menu bar and click on **Erase Disc**.
4. A dialog box will pop up. Choose **Quick Erase** and click on **Start**.
5. After the erase, you may create another CD using the same CD-RW.

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## **Troubleshooting**

**If you get a Buffer Underrun error** - There are two ways you can fix it:

- Choose a lower write speed (If you recorded at 4x last time, try 2x).
- Make sure you saved the data to be burned on the drive that will allow optimal burning speed. This is usually the hard drive

**If Testing and Recording Fails** - There are a number of ways you can try to fix it.

- Choose a lower write speed (If you recorded at 4x last time, try 2x).
- Check you original media for scratches, dirt, or other damage. You may need to clean the media or save your original files to a new/undamaged disc.
- Make sure you saved the data to be burned on the drive that will allow optimal burning speed. This is usually the hard drive.