

CD AND DVD GUIDE

DON'T FEEL INTIMIDATED BY THE MULTITUDE OF STORAGE FORMATS AVAILABLE. USE THIS GUIDE TO UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENT FEATURES AND CAPACITIES OF DISC MEDIA.



Getting started

First, determine which disc formats are compatible with your PC or DVD burner. Next, decide if you want permanent storage (R format) or the ability to add more files later (RW format).

CD media

Compact discs hold 700MB of data (equivalent to 80 minutes of audio or video, and hundreds of high-quality images). Unlike DVDs, CDs are not yet available in double-sided or dual-layer formats.

DVD media

Digital video discs have a significantly storage higher capacity than CDs and offer a full, multi-channel sound (such as surround-sound) experience.

There are four types of DVDs:

- 1) Single-sided discs that hold one layer of data
- 2) Double-sided discs that hold one layer of data on each side
- 3) Single-layer discs that hold two layers of data
- 4) Double-sided discs that hold two layers of data on each side

To utilize dual-layer technology, you must have both a compatible disc writer and dual-layer media.

DVD storage capacity

High-quality files take up a lot of storage space—but with today's disc options, you never have to sacrifice quality.

Disc type	Data capacity	DVD-quality video (hrs)	VHS-quality video (hrs)	CD-quality audio (hrs)	MP3 audio (hrs)
Single-layer, single-sided	4.7GB	2	6+	6+	72+
Single-layer, double-sided	9.4GB	4	12+	14+	144+
Dual-layer, single-sided	8.5GB	4	11+	12+	120+
Dual-layer, double-sided	17GB	8	22+	24+	240+

Terms

LightScribe:

HP's direct disc labeling technology that allows users to create and burn custom labels onto CDs and DVDs using the same drive that burns data. Special LightScribe discs and a LightScribe-enabled drive are required.

+R and -R:

Recordable discs that can be burned once. Perfect for permanent storage. +R is superior in quality to -R.

+RW and -RW:

Rewritable discs that can be burned multiple times (up to 1,000 times for DVDs), allowing you to continually add more data. +RW is superior in quality to -RW.

DVD-RAM:

An optical, high-speed, rewritable disc that can store video with or without using a DVD burner. It's more robust than traditional DVD, better protects data integrity, and can be rerecorded up to 100,000 times. DVD-RAM comes in two versions: a specially coated disc or a disc cartridge.

Brilliantly Simple



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