Burn and rip CDs – Windows 8

When you copy music, pictures, and videos from your PC to a blank CD or DVD, it's called "burning." When you copy music, pictures, and videos from a CD or DVD to your PC, it's called "ripping." You can use Windows Media Player in Windows 8.1 to do both.

Burn CDs (or data DVDs)

Different discs you can burn

With Windows Media Player, you can burn three kinds of discs: audio CDs, data CDs, and data DVDs. To decide which kind of disc you should use, you'll need to think about what you want to copy, how much you're copying, and how you want to play the disc. This table helps you decide what type of disc to use.

Disc type	Description
Disc typeAudio CD	DescriptionChoose this option if you want to make music CDs that you can play in your car, on your stereo, or on your PC. • Use this for music only • Capacity: up to 80 minutes
Disc typeData CD	DescriptionYou can play a data CD on PCs and some CD and DVD players. The device must support the file types that you add to the disc, such as WMA, MP3, JPEG, or Windows Media Video (WMV). Choose this option if you have lots of music and a CD or DVD player that can play the file types you add to the disc or if you want to back up your media. • Use this for music, pictures, and videos • Capacity is about 700 megabytes (MB), or roughly 8 hours of music
Disc typeData DVD	DescriptionYou can play a data DVD on PCs and some DVD players. The device must support the file types that you add to the disc, such as WMA, MP3, JPEG, or WMV. Choose this option if you have a lot of files that won't fit on a single CD because a data DVD has a lot of space. • Use this for music, pictures, and videos • Capacity is about 4.7 gigabytes (GB), or roughly 54 hours of music

What you'll need

You'll need two things to get started:

- A CD or DVD recorder drive (also known as a CD or DVD burner).
- A blank CD or DVD.

How to burn an audio CD (or a data CD or DVD)

You can make a CD that stores about 80 minutes of music and will play in almost any CD player. Or you can make a data CD or DVD that can hold several hours of music (or many photos or short video clips) and will play in PCs. A data CD will work in CD players that support the file types copied to the disc.

Here's how to burn an audio CD:

1. Swipe in from the right edge of the screen, and then tap **Search**.
   (If you're using a mouse, point to the upper-right corner of the screen, move the mouse pointer down, and then click **Search**.)

2. Enter **Windows Media Player** in the search box, and then tap or click **Windows Media Player**.

3. In the Player Library, tap or click the **Burn** tab, tap or click the **Burn options** button , and then tap or click **Audio CD**.

4. Insert a blank disc into your CD or DVD burner.

   If your PC has more than one CD or DVD drive, tap or click the drive you want to use.

5. Search for the items in your Player Library that you want to burn to the disc, and then drag them to the list pane (on the right side of the Player Library) to create a burn list.

6. When you're finished with the list, tap or click **Start burn**.

Tips

- If you want to change the order of the items in the burn list, drag them up or down in the list.

- If you want to remove an item from the burn list, double-tap or right-click the item, and then tap or click **Remove from list**.If you remove an item from the burn list, it isn't deleted from your player or your PC.

- If your list has too many items for one disc, you can burn the remaining items to a second disc.

Rip CDs

When you rip music from a CD, you're copying songs from an audio CD to your PC. During the ripping process, the Player compresses each song and stores it on your drive as a Windows Media Audio (WMA), WAV, or MP3 file.

Ripped files are automatically saved to the Music folder, but you can change the location using the options on the Rip settings tab.

To rip music from a CD

Make sure your PC is connected to the Internet if you want Windows Media Player to automatically get info about the songs, such as the name of the CD, the artist, and titles for the tracks being ripped.

1. Swipe in from the right edge of the screen, and then tap **Search**.
    (If you're using a mouse, point to the upper-right corner of the screen, move the mouse pointer down, and then click **Search**.)

2. Enter **Windows Media Player** in the search box, and then tap or click **Windows Media Player**.

3. Insert an audio CD into the PC's CD drive.

4. Tap or click the **Rip CD** button .

    ### Tips

    - If you want to select a different format or bit rate, tap or click the **Rip settings** menu, and then choose **Format** or **Audio Quality** in the Player Library.

    - If you don't want to rip every song, clear the check boxes next to the songs you don't want.

To add or edit media info after ripping

1. In the Player Library, search for the album or song you want to edit.

2. Swipe across or right-click the album, and then tap or click **Find album info**.

3. Do one of the following:

    - If the correct album or artist info appears in the search results, select the correct entry, and then follow the instructions on the page to automatically update the album art and media info.

    - If the correct album doesn't appear in the search results, follow the instructions on the page to search again using different search criteria, or to manually add the media info.

Notes

- If you get an error message when you try to find album info that says you need to change your privacy settings, tap or click **Organize**, tap or click **Options**, tap or click the **Privacy** tab, and then select the **Update music files by retrieving media info from the Internet** check box.

- If the correct album info appears with a generic music icon displayed as the album art, the album art is unavailable for download.

Change settings for ripping music

The changes you make apply to new tracks that you rip. You can't use the Player to change the format or audio quality of a song you've already ripped.

1. Swipe in from the right edge of the screen, and then tap **Search**.
   (If you're using a mouse, point to the upper-right corner of the screen, move the mouse pointer down, and then click **Search**.)

2. Enter **Windows Media Player** in the search box, and then tap or click **Windows Media Player**.

3. Insert a CD into your CD drive.

4. Maximize the Windows Media Player window so you can see all of the menu options, tap or click **Rip settings**, and then select the setting you want to change.