

Re: Looking for DVD combo drive

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- *From:* et472@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (Michael Black)
 - *Date:* 19 May 2006 20:15:53 GMT
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Dirk Bruere (dirk.bruere@xxxxxxxx) writes:

Ian Stirling wrote:

Dirk Bruere <dirk.bruere@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

Rene Tschaggelar wrote:

Dirk Bruere wrote:

... that does not have a tray
that feels like flimsy plastic
crap.
Does anyone do one? Such
mech info seems extremely
difficult to find.
I'm looking for the kind of
'quality' mechanism found
on high end CD
players (but obviously I also
need DVD functionality).

With a target price of 30\$, you only
get plastic crap. You can always bring one
to your local mechanic and have it
remade from whatever material.

The target price is <\$200

Now, order ten thousand at that price, and you may get beautiful results.
With onlies, you are not going to get quality for \$200.

I'm not talking about complete CD/DVD players, but drives.
You know – the ones people put in computers to read/write DVD/CDs.
Typical price for crap – \$30.
What quality ones exist?

Dirk

I paid hundreds of dollars for my first 5.25" floppy drive, in 1984, and by then the price had dropped considerably. I paid something like \$80 for my first 3.5" floppy drive, it was only single-sided, in 1989. My first hard drive, in late 1993, was hundreds of dollars.

When you're paying that kind of money, you can expect things to stand up well. But when you have to squeeze costs in order to reach a price level that consumers demand, then of course things get flimsy. Yes, some of cost reduction is due to a greater market, and some to higher integration, but mechanical parts are often a means of cutting costs. People want cheap, but on the other hand they aren't expecting to repair things. They'll pay thirty dollars for a drive, and then not worry when they have to replace it, for another thirty dollars. They know it would cost more to have it repaired.

Keep the price high, and that limits who will buy. But it gives far more leeway for good construction, and when people are paying good money for something, they are more willing to spend a percentage of that money to keep the item running.

Michael

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