

## Re: Looking for DVD combo drive

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- *From:* Keith <krw@xxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Sat, 20 May 2006 12:15:46 -0400
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On Fri, 19 May 2006 21:22:11 +0100, Dirk Bruere wrote:

Michael Black wrote:

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

Re: Looking for DVD combo drive

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

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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.

The thing is, high quality drives *\*are\** used in top end AV equipment. I'd just like to know what they are and who makes them.

Audiophools buy Monster Cables and they're fairly well built too. I do wish laptop optical drives were a little less flimsy though.

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Keith

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