

Re: Copying "Soundtrack from the movie ..." CD

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I have finally managed to rip the audio from the CD, and burn audio CD copies. I don't have a definitive answer to the original problem, but in thanks to those who were kind enough to try to help, I'll tell you what finally worked.

To review, the original was a mixed CD, audio and data. I tried ripping the audio using several different (but not elaborate) programs. These included Winamp, Windows Media Player, MusicMatch Jukebox, AudioGrabber, Sonic, and Exact Audio Copy. All of them ripped tracks 1-17 without problem, but stumbled on tracks 18 and 19. Some of them simply froze on 18, requiring a machine reboot. Some went into an endless loop of spinning the drive up and then coasting it back to zero, then repeating. Some gave error messages, some did not. One was smart enough to switch into an analog backup recording mode, but still couldn't finish the track that way.

My machines (I tried 2, nearly identical) have what is apparently a rather generic CD-ROM drive, listed as "HL-DT-ST CD-ROM GCR-8483B" in the device manager. This is what I was using for ripping. The machines also have Sony CRX216E CD-RW drives. I have always been told that CD-RW drives are fussier, and not really appropriate for mixed mode or for ripping, but in desperation I finally tried it. Most of the software packages listed above still had problems, but using the Sony CD-RW drive, plain old Music Match Jukebox 9.0 was able to pull a good copy after only a little bit of stumbling. Once I had ripped a good copy to my hard drive, burning was easy.

So what was going on? I have no idea.

Thanks for those who tried to help me.

Bill

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Dan wrote:

Some cd's come with "bonus" files, games you can play on a pc, etc. That's probably what the .exe & .dxr and other unknown files are. Typically, when you simply view a commercial music cd containing only music in WE, you see a number of .cda files of 1k size, one for each tune. You need to rip the cd; you can't just copy its contents and expect it to play on a cd player (car, etc). If you just want to clone the disk, rip to .wav files (uncompressed, not mp3's etc). I use Exact Audio Copy for this, obtainable free here <http://www.exactaudiocopy.de/> You then burn the files using any number of programs; I use Nero Express. BTW I have a copy of this very disk I got from the library, been awhile, don't recall if the original had any non-audio nonsense on it, but the copy plays fine. There's no doubt a way to clone all the contents (mixed audio/data), but some commercial cd's are actually too large to fit on a cd-r in their entirety, again I don't recall if this was the case with the disk in question.

Dan

Bill Jeffrey wrote:

I bought a CD "Soundtrack from the Movie O Brother Where Art Thou". The disc plays fine in the DVD/CD player connected to my TV. I would like to make an audio CD copy to play in my car, but I'm having a LOT of trouble.

There are no recognizable audio files (i.e., *.mp3, etc) on the CD. Windows Explorer tells me there are a number of other files, some of which are executables (*.exe), as well as a huge one with a .DXR suffix. I imagine this is where the audio is stored, but I can't be sure.

On my computer, I can play the first 17 (of the 19) tracks using Winamp 5.08. I can also rip these tracks, and then later play the ripped files. The ripped files on my hard drive have an .m4a extension. But my computer won't play or rip tracks

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18 or 19 - midway through the 18th track, it hangs up hard, and I have to pull the power cord to get control back. It won't even begin to rip the 19th track.

I guess I could plug the analog audio output from the DVD/CD player into my computer's sound card and capture it there, but this annoys me. And I would like to know what is happening.

Anyone got any info? Thanks.

Bill