Ulead® Burn.Now™

User Guide
Ulead Systems, Inc.
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Welcome to Ulead Burn.Now

In an increasingly technologically demanding world, file sizes are getting larger and the need for storage space to keep up with the pace is high. Burning CDs enables you to free up valuable space on your computer and retain important backups. Moreover DVDs, which have superior data storage capacity, are ideal for burning very large files, such as video footage and multimedia files.

If you've ever felt overwhelmed by the thought of burning your own discs, Ulead Burn.Now offers the solution you've been looking for. It is easy to use, yet versatile enough to handle a wide range of tasks and media without requiring you to make tricky technical decisions. All you really need to decide is what kind of discs you want to use, and what you want to burn on them.

Things you can do in Burn.Now

Make a data disc

There is no limit to the type of information you can burn to disc with Burn.Now. Whether you need to back up important word-processed documents, spreadsheets, presentations and projects, or compile photos, video footage, sound clips and more to share with your family and friends, Burn.Now has all the options you need.

Burn.Now supports both ISO and UDF file systems for writing data to discs. Furthermore, if you are working with rewritable discs, whether CD or DVD, Burn.Now enables you to edit the contents of discs that have already been burned. There is no need to wipe the whole disc and start over, if you only wish to remove or add files, or simply to reorganize your folders and files.

Make an audio disc

With Burn.Now you can also make your own audio discs. You can collect all types of sound files, and create an Audio CD, DVD-Audio disc, or “Audio-only” DVD-Video disc.

Make an MP3 disc

In addition to audio discs, you can also collect MP3 files and compile them into an MP3 disc. MP3 files are a very popular format, and are primarily played back on personal computers, although they can also be played on CD players that support the format. Since they are relatively small files, the total play time of MP3s for the same amount of disc space is far greater than that of traditional audio formats, although there is a slight compromise in sound quality.

Copy discs

One of the simplest ways that you can distribute and share discs is by burning copies of them. Burn.Now offers several ways of copying discs.

The fastest and most convenient method is by directly duplicating an existing disc. This enables you to burn an exact replica straight to another disc without requiring any step in between. This is a speedy method that has the further advantage of not requiring a large amount of space on your computer if you copy on-the-fly.

Alternatively, you can burn an image of the contents of the disc and store the image on your computer. A disc can be burnt directly from the image file. This takes a little longer, but is more stable and allows you the flexibility of creating the image file on one occasion, and burning at a later date, as well as being more convenient for burning multiple copies and for backup purposes.

What's new

Create DVD-Audio discs

Burn stereo-quality music on DVD that can be played on DVD-Audio capable players.

Create "Audio-only" DVD-Video discs

An "Audio-only" DVD-Video disc is the same as the regular DVD-Video disc except that there is no video content recorded on the disc. Burn stereo-quality music on DVD that can be played on your computer, home or car DVD player.

MP3 encoding

Rip and convert audio files to MP3 using the Rip CD Audio and Convert Audio Files functions.

Convert audio files

Convert your audio files to other popular audio formats.

Rip tracks from audio CDs

Easily extract your files from your audio CDs and convert them to popular formats such as MPA, WAV, and WMA.

Double-layer DVD burning support

Burn a double-layer DVD up to 8.5GB of video, audio, image, or data files.

UDF system driver for a wide range of Windows O/S

UDF system driver is now compatible with Windows XP, 2000, Me, and 98.

UDF defect management (DRT-DM)

Distributed Real-Time Defect Management (DRT-DM) improves writing reliability for DVD-RW and CD-RW.

System requirements

To run **Ulead Burn.Now**, you must have the following minimum requirements:

- Microsoft Windows 98 SE, ME, 2000, XP
- DirectX 8.0 driver or above
- Intel Pentium III processor or above (at least 500 MHz CPU)
- 128 MB RAM (256 MB or higher recommended)
- 30 MB of available hard disk space for installation
- CD or DVD-ROM drive
- Windows compatible DVD-R/-RW, DVD+R/+RW, DVD-RAM, or CD-R/RW burner drive that supports MMC (Multimedia Command) standard

Basics

Burn.Now has a simple, straightforward user interface that frees you from the task of configuring complex settings. All you need to do is choose the type of disc to create, compile and then burn the disc. This section introduces you to the Burn.Now interface.

The user interface: an overview

Select a Task dialog box

The easiest way to make sure you are heading in the right direction when compiling a new disc is by beginning with the **Select a Task** dialog box. This is displayed each time you launch **Burn.Now**, but can also be opened again by selecting **Disc: Create Disc [Ctrl + N]** or by clicking on the **Toolbar**.

The **Select a Task** dialog box displays the four available task types on the left side. When a task type on the left is selected, all the options available for that task are displayed on the right. A brief description of the selected option is displayed in the lower half of the **Options Panel**.

Note: If you click **Exit**, **Burn.Now** will be closed.

Disc Layout Window

The **Disc Layout Window** is the area where you add and organize the data to burn to disc.

The appearance of the **Disc Layout Window** depends on the type of task chosen. When compiling data discs and MP3 discs, the Disc Layout Window of **Burn.Now** displays two window panes beneath the **Toolbar**, similar to the panes in Microsoft Windows Explorer. The pane on the left displays, and also enables you to create, a folder system for organizing your files, while the pane on the right displays all subfolders and files contained within the selected folder (shown highlighted) on the left. You can sort your files and folders on the right by clicking on the column header.

When compiling audio discs, the **Disc Layout Window** displays a single pane listing selected audio tracks and displaying their file information.

Below the **Disc-space Meter** is the **Status Bar**, which displays information about the current device name, project size, and task type.

Toolbar and Menus

The **Toolbar** enables you to access the most commonly used functions easily. All of the buttons on the Toolbar are available through the menus, and some are also available through the context menu in the **Disc Layout Window**.

Disc-space Meter

The **Disc-space Meter** is located underneath the two panes. The measurement markings on the meter indicates how much space is available on the target CD or DVD. A progress bar on the Disc-space Meter starting from the left side indicates the amount of space to be occupied on the disc; or the total time of tracks when compiling an audio CD. The progress bar extends to the right as more data are added.

Safety markers (colored dotted lines) on the right running vertically down the meter indicate capacity limits. The blue marker indicates the recommended maximum capacity, while the red one indicates the absolute maximum limit. Increasing the quantity of data beyond the blue marker is risky, and is not recommended.

Setting preferences

You can specify the folder where you want **Burn.Now** to store temporary files created during the burning process. Click in the **Select a Task** dialog box or select **Disc: Preferences** in the program window to specify the working folder.

By default, Burn.Now automatically ejects the disc after burning is complete. To disable auto-eject, select **Don't eject disc after burning**.

> **Note:** Some burners do not refresh the disc contents after writing, and thus, the new disc contents may not be read properly by other applications. Such burners have to be forced to do a refresh by ejecting and closing the disc tray.

Burn.Now supports various DVD disc formats that differ in terms of disc capacity. You can specify the disc size of your project in **Fit to target** under **Fit DVD**. Once you change the disc size of your project, the Meter Bar will adjust to the size you selected.

Choosing a disc burner

When creating discs, you would usually specify a physical burner drive with which to burn the disc. However, instead of directly recording to a burner, **Burn.Now** provides an alternative method. When compiling a new disc, it is not necessary to burn it immediately to a disc. Instead, you can save it as a disc image file on your computer, and store it there to be burnt to disc later.

Choose **Burner: Select Burner**. You can then choose a physical burner if you want to burn directly to disc. Click **Advanced** to view your burner's read and write capabilities.

To burn a disc image file, select Disc image file from the drop-down list. When you start the burning process, you will be prompted to specify where to save the image file and what file format to use. The files can be saved as an .ixb file which is the Ulead native format and is readable only in Burn.Now. You can also save it as an

.iso file which is the industry standard format and is compatible with all burning software. You will need sufficient space on your hard disk to store the disc image file.

Note: Burn.Now can create ISO 9660 and UDF/ISO 9660 disc image files only. For UDF 1.5 file system or above, the program can only directly burn to disc. (See "About file systems" for more information on file systems.)

About file systems

When creating a new disc, you need to select an appropriate file system that will make the disc readable on the device or operating system where the disc will be viewed or played. Choose the file system in the **Burn Disc** dialog box before burning the disc. (Click **Burn Disc** in the **Toolbar**.) The file systems that are available include:

- **ISO 9660**

  ISO 9660 is a cross-platform file system that is readable on Windows, Macintosh, and Unix. When you create an ISO 9660 disc with **Joliet** extensions, names of files/folders burned onto discs can have up to 64 characters in length.

  Burn.Now only allows ISO 9660 to be used as the file system for audio discs and MP3 discs.

- **UDF 1.5, 2.0 and 2.01**

  UDF (Universal Disc Format) is a file system developed by OSTA (Optical Storage Technology Association). There are various UDF versions. UDF 1.5 (readable on Windows 2000 and above) and higher versions (readable on Windows XP and above) support random packet writing and allows over 4 GB of data to be burnt onto a DVD disc. (See "Appendix C: Glossary" for information on random packet writing.)

- **UDF/ISO 9660**

  UDF/ISO 9660 (also known as UDF Bridge) is a combination of two file systems: UDF 1.02 and ISO 9660. Discs burned with this file system can be read by Macintosh and Windows.

Making a data disc

A data disc is a disc that contains computer files. Computer files can include a wide variety of data including word-processed documents, spreadsheets, multimedia files including music, video clips, images, and much, much more. Discs are extremely convenient for storing data as they can hold large quantities. CDs can hold up to 700MB of data, while DVDs can hold gigabytes of data. Since recordable/ rewritable discs are relatively inexpensive, they are quick and convenient way of backing up computer systems. As an added bonus, their compactness allows for easy storage and transportation.

Ulead Burn.Now streamlines the process of putting together a data disc, taking care of all the complicated decisions for you. All you need to do is decide the kind of disc to use and what data to write onto your disc.

To create a data disc:

1. In the **Select a Task** dialog box, select **Create Disc** and then select **Data disc**.
2. Select the disc type (CD or DVD), and then click **OK**.
3. Choose **Burner: Select Burner** to select whether to burn to a physical disc burner or create a disc image file. (See "Choosing a disc burner" for details.)
4. Collect folders and files, and add them to the **Disc Layout Window**.
5. When you are ready to burn the data disc, click **Burn Disc** on the **Toolbar**.

Compiling a data disc

The **Disc Layout Window** is where you compile and organize folders and files to burn to a data disc.

To compile a data disc:

1. To select files from your computer, click **Add Files** on the **Toolbar**. Once the navigation box is opened, select a file, (or multiple files by holding down **[Shift]** for consecutive files, or **[Ctrl]** for individual selection), then click **Open**. The selected files will be displayed in the right panel.
2. To insert a whole folder into your compilation, click **Add Folder** on the **Toolbar**. The **Browse for Folder** dialog box will be displayed. Navigate to the folder, then click **OK**.
3. Alternatively, click **Add from Explorer** on the **Toolbar**, which will launch Windows Explorer. Navigate directly to the folders/files to copy, then select and drag across to either pane. The folders/files will be added to the folder selected in the left pane.

4. To reorganize data, click on any file or folder in either pane, and drag it to its new location, up or down the folder structure in the left pane, or directly across to a different folder from the left pane to the right.
5. To create a new folder, right-click in the right pane then select **New Folder** from the context menu.
6. To rename a selected folder or file, right-click in the right pane and select **Rename**. The selected folder/file name will be highlighted and show a flashing cursor, and a new name can be entered.
7. To delete any file or folder, select it then click **Delete** on the **Toolbar**.

Burning the data disc

1. Click **Burn Disc** on the **Toolbar**. The **Burn Disc** dialog box will be displayed.

2. In the top half of the dialog box, the disc **Volume** can be renamed and a **File system** can be selected. The volume name can have up to 16 characters in length.

   If ISO 9660 is selected as the file system, the **Joliet** option will be available. Joliet is an industry standard extension of ISO 9660 which supports Unicode in file names and permits extended file names of up to 64 characters in length, including spaces.

3. In the **Disc burner** area, you can specify whether to create a disc image file or burn directly to disc. (See "Choosing a disc burner" for details.)

   If you are burning directly to a physical burner, the write **Speed** can also be selected. If there is a disc inserted in the burner, the program will check the write speed of the burner and the disc, and by default, will choose the highest speed that both can handle.

   Note: For details on the other options available in this dialog box, see "Disc burning options".

4. Click **Burn** to start the burning process.

Making an audio disc

An audio disc is a disc that holds songs or music. **Burn.Now** makes the audio disc production process easy for you. Simply compile your audio files, then create your audio disc.

To create an audio disc:

1. In the **Select a Task** dialog box, select **Create Disc** and then select **Audio disc**.

2. Choose a data format that will allow your disc player to recognize and play the disc:

   - **Audio CD** - Records audio in Compact Disc-Digital Audio (CD-DA) format on CD-R or CD-RW media. A disc may contain up to 99 tracks or songs. Audio CD can be played on any CD or DVD player, such as portable units or the CD-ROM/ DVD-ROM drive in your PC.

- **DVD-Audio** - Records audio in LPCM stereo (44.1 kHz, 16-bit stereo) on DVD. A DVD disc can contain up to 99 tracks or songs. Audio are saved as .aob files in the AUDIO_TS folder on the DVD.

  DVDs burned in this format can be played in DVD-Audio-only players. When you play the DVD, use the player's controls or its remote control to select and playback tracks.

- **Audio-only DVD-Video** - Records audio in DVD-Video format. A DVD burned in this format is the same as a regular DVD movie disc which can be played on your computer, home or car DVD player, except that the DVD does not contain video content.

  Audio is recorded in LPCM stereo at 48 kHz 16-bit stereo. A DVD disc, or each side of a dual-sided DVD, is divided into a maximum of 99 titles, and each title may contain up to 99 tracks or songs. Audio are saved as .vob files in the VIDEO_TS folder on the DVD. When you play the DVD, a playlist selection menu with a still background image will be displayed on-screen where you can select tracks to play.

3. Click **OK**. The **Disc Layout Window** will then appear where you can collect audio files to be burned onto the disc. (See "Compiling an audio disc" for details.)

4. Choose **Burner: Select Burner** to decide whether to burn directly to a disc burner or create a disc image file. (See "Disc burning options" for details.)

5. Collect audio files and add them to the **Disc Layout Window**.

6. When you are ready to burn the audio disc, click **Burn Disc** in the **Toolbar**.

Compiling an audio disc

The **Disc Layout Window** is where you assemble and organize the audio tracks you want to burn to disc.

Note: When adding audio tracks, check the **Disc-space Meter** to ensure that you are not exceeding the capacity of the disc.

If you chose to create an Audio CD, the **Disc-space Meter** will display the CD capacity in units of minutes. If you chose to create a DVD-Audio or Audio-only DVD-Video disc, the **Disc-space Meter** will display the DVD capacity in units of megabytes.

To compile tracks for your audio disc:

1. If you chose to create an **Audio-only DVD-Video** formatted disc in the **Select a Task** dialog box, select the audio format for encoding audio on DVD.

   You can select **LPCM audio** or **Dolby Digital audio**.

2. To select individual files from your computer, click **Add Files** on the **Toolbar**. Once the navigation box is opened, select a file, (or multiple files by holding down **[Shift]** for consecutive files, or **[Ctrl]** for individual selection), then click **Open**.

   Note: You can add video files such as AVI, QuickTime, and Windows Media Video files. Audio will be extracted from the video files and added as audio tracks to the Disc Layout Window.

   Alternatively, click **Add from Explorer** on the **Toolbar** to add files using Windows Explorer. Navigate to the folder where your audio files are kept, and drag them to the **Disc Layout Window**.

3. To add all audio files from a specific folder, click **Add Folder** on the **Toolbar**. Navigate to the folder, then click **OK**.
4. Audio files will be added as tracks in the **Disc Layout Window**. To rearrange tracks, select the track(s) then, select **Edit: Move Track-Up/Down** or drag the selected tracks to the desired position.
5. To delete a track, select it then click **Delete** on the **Toolbar**.
6. By default, each track has the same name as the audio file. To rename a track, select the track then click the track title.

Adding CD-Text (Audio CD only)

The **CD-Text** feature lets you store track and CD information onto the Audio CD. To display this information, the disc must be played on a CD player that supports CD-Text features.

Note: CD-Text can be written to the Audio CD only when the disc is to be closed.

To add track and album information:

1. To add track information, first select a track then click **CD-Text Track Information** on the **Toolbar**.

   To add CD information, click **CD-Text Album Information** on the Toolbar.

2. Enter information as prompted, then click **OK**.

CD-Text Track Information

CD-Text Album Information

Burning the audio disc

1. To burn an Audio CD, insert a blank CD-R or CD-RW into the burning device.

   To burn a DVD-Audio or Audio-only DVD-Video disc, insert a blank DVD-R, DVD+R, DVD-RW, or DVD+RW.

2. Click **Burn Disc** on the **Toolbar**. The **Burn Disc** dialog box will be displayed.

Burn Disc dialog box (Audio CD)

Burn Disc dialog box (DVD-Audio and Audio-only DVD-Video)

3. For an Audio CD, select **Write CD-Text information** and **Close disc** if you want to add CD-Text (that is, track and album information) on the disc. (CD-Text cannot be added if the disc is not closed.)

Notes:

- If the Audio CD is closed, you will not be able to add additional content to the CD at a later stage.
- DVDs are always closed.

4. In the **Disc burner** area, you can confirm whether to save as a disc image file or burn directly onto a disc. (See "Choosing a disc burner" for details.)

If you are burning directly to a physical burner, the write **Speed** can also be selected. If there is a disc inserted in the burner, the program will check the write speed of the burner and the disc, and by default, will choose the highest speed that both can handle.

Notes:

- For details on the other options available in this dialog box, see "Disc burning options".
- Since the audio size to be burned onto DVD is enormous, DVD folders and files will first be created on your hard drive which will then be burned onto the DVD. Before burning a DVD-Audio or Audio-only DVD-Video disc, make sure that your hard drive has available space that is equivalent to, or higher than, the DVD disc capacity. The temporary DVD folders and files will be deleted from your hard drive after burning is complete.

5. Click **Burn** to start the burning process.

Making an MP3 disc

MP3 is a popular audio file format that compresses sound files so that they take up only about 1/10th of their original size. Even though it is highly compressed, its sound quality is not noticeably compromised, except on extremely hi-fidelity sound systems. MP3 is ideal for playback on your computer, and for traveling, since compression enables a large number of MP3 files to be stored on disc for playback on a small portable MP3 player or CD player. (A CD player that supports MP3 playback is required for playing MP3.)

Burn.Now lets you easily collect your favorite MP3 files and burn them to disc.

To create an MP3 disc:

1. In the **Select a Task** dialog box, select **Create Disc** then select **MP3 disc**.
2. Select the disc type (CD or DVD) that you will be burning to, then click **OK**.
3. Choose **Burner: Select Burner** to select whether to burn directly onto a disc or create a disc image file. (See "Choosing a disc burner" for details.)
4. Collect MP3 files and add them to the **Disc Layout Window**.
5. When you are ready to burn the MP3 disc, click **Burn Disc** on the **Toolbar**.

Compiling an MP3 disc

The **Disc Layout Window** is where you compile and organize MP3 folders and files to burn onto a disc.

To compile MP3s for your MP3 disc:

1. To select MP3 files from your computer, click **Add Files** on the **Toolbar**. Once the navigation box is opened, select an MP3 file, (or multiple MP3 files by holding down **[Shift]** for consecutive MP3 files, or **[Ctrl]** for individual selection), then click **Open**. The selected MP3 files will be displayed in the right pane.

2. To insert a whole folder into your compilation, click **Add Folder** on the **Toolbar**. The **Browse for Folder** dialog box will be displayed. Navigate to the folder, then click **OK**.

3. Alternatively, click **Add from Explorer** on the **Toolbar**, which will launch Windows Explorer. Navigate directly to the MP3

folder or files to copy, then select and drag across to either pane.

4. To reorganize data, select any MP3 file or folder in either pane, and drag it to its new location, up or down the folder structure in the left pane, or directly across to a different folder from the left pane to the right.
5. To create a new folder, right-click in the right pane then select **New Folder** from the menu.
6. To rename a selected folder or file, right-click in the right pane and select **Rename**.
7. To delete any MP3 file or folder, select it then click **Delete** on the **Toolbar**.

Burning the MP3 disc

1. Click **Burn Disc** on the Toolbar. The **Burn Disc** dialog box will be displayed.
2. In the top half of the dialog box, you can rename the disc **Volume**, which can have up to 16 characters in length.

   Only the ISO 9660 file system can be used for MP3 discs. To ensure that complete MP3 folder and file names will be retained, you can select the **Joliet** option. Joliet is an industry standard extension of ISO 9660 file system which supports Unicode in file names and permits extended file names of up to 64 characters in length, including spaces.

3. In the **Disc burner** area, you can specify whether to create a disc image burn directly onto a disc. (See "Choosing a disc burner" for details.)

   If you are burning directly to a physical burner, the write **Speed** can also be selected. If there is a disc inserted in the burner, the program will check the write speed of the burner and the disc, and by default, will choose the highest speed that both can handle.

   Note: For details on the other options available in this dialog box, see "Disc burning options".

4. Click **Burn** to start burning the disc.

Converting audio files

Burn.Now allows you to convert audio files to five audio file formats: au, mp3, mpa, wav, and wma.

Convert Audio Files dialog box

Add Adds audio files to the list for conversion.

Delete Removes the selected audio file(s) from the list.

Remove All Deletes all audio file(s) from the list.

Play Plays back the selected audio file.

File Info Displays the properties of the selected audio file.

Audio file list Displays the audio files to be converted.

Output folder Displays the location of the converted audio files. Click Browse to locate a folder where the converted audio files will be saved.

File type Specifies the output format for the converted audio files.

Options Opens a dialog box where you can specify additional settings for the selected audio encoding format.

Information Displays additional information about the selected encoding format.

Convert All Converts all audio files in the list to the specified audio encoding format.

To convert audio files:

1. Select **Tools: Convert Audio Files** (or click on the Toolbar).
2. Click **Add** to browse for the audio files to be converted.
3. Click **Browse** to specify the output folder for the converted audio files.
4. Select an audio file format from **File type**.

Note: Click **Options** to specify additional settings for the selected audio encoding format.

5. Select the audio files as you would in Windows Explorer and click **Convert**, or directly click **Convert All** to start the conversion process.

Ripping CD audio

The process of copying an audio track from an audio CD is commonly referred to as ripping. Burn.Now allows you to rip Audio CD files and convert them to file formats compatible with most multimedia software.

To rip files from an Audio CD:

1. Insert an Audio CD into your CD-ROM drive.

2. Select **Tools: Rip CD Audio**, or click on the Toolbar.

3. Select the track from the list and then browse for the folder where the audio files will be stored. To select multiple tracks, hold down **[Ctrl]** or **[Shift]** and then select the tracks.

Tip: You can click ▶ to preview the selected track or *i* to view its properties.

4. Specify the audio encoding format for the audio files in File type.
5. Click **Rip** to start ripping the audio tracks.

Tip: To copy all the tracks in the disc, click **Rip All**.

Disc burning options

Burn.Now features a number of options to determine how your discs are burnt.

Close disc

Closing a disc prevents additional data to be written onto the disc after the burning process is finished.

The following guidelines should be followed when deciding whether to close a disc or leave it open:

- A data disc can be left open. CD-ROM and DVD-ROM drives will be able to read open data discs.
- Leave an MP3 disc open to keep adding more MP3 files. CD-ROM drives, MP3 players and CD players that support MP3 playback will be able to play open MP3 discs.
- If an Audio CD is left open, it can be appended with data files and used as a data disc as well. An Audio CD that contains both audio tracks and data tracks is known as a CD-Extra disc.

  Close an Audio CD when writing CD-Text onto the disc. Closing an Audio CD also makes the disc more compatible with CD players that may not be able to play open discs.

Note: Burn.Now burns a disc in 'Disc-at-Once' mode when you close the disc, and 'Track-at-Once' mode when the disc is left open.

Direct burn

Direct burn is a quick way of burning discs since it allows data to be written directly onto the disc. When this feature is disabled, a temporary disc image file will first be created on the hard drive before the disc is burnt.

Direct burn must be selected when burning a disc with **UDF 1.5 file system or above** since Burn.Now does not allow the creation of disc image files with these file systems. You can also select this option if you have a fast computer and fast burner device.

You can clear the **Direct burn** option when burning a disc with ISO 9660 or UDF/ISO 9660 file system, or if you have a slow computer and faster burner device (with a write speed of higher than 8X) to prevent burning errors.

Note: It is recommended that multiple programs are not running while directly burning to disc, to prevent burning errors and to increase your computer's performance.

Perform test before burning

Selecting this option simulates the recording process before burning data to disc. This helps in checking if the system speed or CD-ROM/DVD-ROM speed is fast enough to send data to the burner device at the specified write speed. However, this doubles the burning time.

Note: If your burning device has buffer underrun protection and this function is enabled, you can clear the **Perform test before burning** option to save time when burning discs.

Buffer underrun protection

If the burning device has buffer underrun protection capability, this feature is enabled in the **Burn Disc** dialog box. Selecting this option ensures an uninterrupted flow of data to minimize the risk of errors in the burning process.

Note: DVD+R/+RW burners always perform buffer underrun protection when burning discs and do not allow this option to be disabled. If you are using such a burner, this option will be grayed out in the Burn Disc dialog box.

Editing a disc

Burn.Now harnesses the versatility of rewritable discs by allowing you to edit the contents of a data disc or MP3 disc without needing to erase or format it first.

Modifying disc contents

To add and edit data on a disc:

1. Insert the rewritable disc to be edited into the disc burner.
2. In the Select a Task dialog box, select **Edit Disc** and then specify the disc burner.

Tip: Detailed information about both the burner and the disc can be viewed by clicking then selecting **Drive Information** and **Disc Information** respectively.

3. Select the type of disc (Data disc or MP3 disc) to be edited and then click **OK**.

   The contents of the disc will be displayed in the **Disc Layout Window**. Existing files and folders will be shown in grayed-out text, but can be moved, deleted, renamed and reorganized in the same way as when compiling a new disc. Once existing files are edited, they are no longer shown as grayed text, but black.

4. To add more files or folders, click **Add Files** , **Add Folder** or **Add from Explorer** on the **Toolbar**.

   New files and folders are also shown in black.

Note: If a file name (or folder name) that you want to add already exists on the disc, you will be prompted to confirm whether or not to overwrite the existing files.

Burning the edited disc

1. Click **Burn Disc** on the **Toolbar**. The **Burn Disc** dialog box opens.

2. In the top half of the dialog box, you can rename the disc **Volume**, which can have up to 16 characters in length. The file system cannot be changed. The disc will be burned using the existing file system.
3. In the lower half of the dialog box, you can change the write **Speed**. If a disc is already inserted in the burner, the program will check the write speed of the burner and the disc, and by default, will choose the highest speed that both can handle.

> **Note:** For details on the other options available in this dialog box, see "Disc burning options".

4. Click **Burn** to start the burning process.

Copying a disc

Burn.Now's **Copy Disc** feature lets you duplicate any type of disc, including VCDs, SVCDs and DVDs, as long as it is not copy protected. You can make direct disc to disc copies, or copy a disc as a disc image file. You can also duplicate a disc from a disc image file.

To use the Copy Disc feature, select **Copy Disc** in the **Select a Task** dialog box or select **Disc: Copy Disc** on the Toolbar.

Making a disc to disc copy

Burn.Now allows you to copy 'on-the-fly', that is, to directly copy the contents from a source disc to a new disc.

To make a disc to disc copy:

1. Insert the source disc into your CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive and a blank disc into your disc burner.
2. In the **Select a Task** dialog box, select **Copy Disc**.
3. Under **Source**, select **Disc** then choose your source drive. Under **Destination**, choose your burner drive.

> **Note:** Your disc burner can both be your source drive and destination drive. While copying, Burn.Now will prompt you to insert the source disc and then the blank disc.

4. Click to see more burning options.

5. Set the **Read speed**. If there is a disc inserted in the source CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive, the program will check the read speed of the drive and the disc, and by default, will choose the highest speed that both can handle.

> **Tip:** When copying Audio CDs, choose a low read speed to preserve the audio quality. When copying data discs or other types of discs, choosing a high read speed minimizes buffer underrun errors.

6. Set the **Write speed**. If there is a disc inserted in the burner drive, the program will check the write speed of the burner and the disc, and by default, will choose the highest speed that both can handle.
7. Specify the number of disc **Copies** to burn.
8. Select **On-the-fly** to directly copy from the source disc.
9. Select **Buffer underrun protection** to prevent interruptions in the flow of data from the source disc to the burner and ensure a safe burn.
10. Click **OK** to start copying.

Note: If you encounter a buffer underrun error even with the **Buffer underrun protection** option selected, choose a lower write speed or clear **On-the-fly** and try copying the disc again. Disabling on-the-fly copying allows a temporary disc image file of the source disc contents to be saved first in the hard drive before burning the disc. This reduces the risk of copying failure.

Creating a disc image file

A disc image file is a single file that has captured the entire contents and file structure of a disc. Creating a disc image file on your hard disk allows you to archive the source disc contents for backup or future burning.

To create a disc image file:

1. Insert the source disc into your CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive.
2. In the **Select a Task** dialog box, select **Copy Disc**.
3. Under **Source**, select **Disc** then choose your source drive.
4. Under **Destination**, select **Disc image file**.
5. Click **OK**. The **Save As** dialog box will be displayed.
6. Select a file format. The disc image file can be saved in **.iso** which is a standard disc image format or **.ixb** which is Ulead's native format.

7. Specify a file name for the disc image file, and click **Save** to create the disc image file.

Burning a disc from a disc image file

If you created a disc image file from a source disc, or if you previously saved a disc image file for a data, MP3, or audio disc created in Burn.Now, you can easily burn multiple disc copies using the image file.

To burn a disc from a disc image file:

1. Insert a blank disc in your disc burner.
2. In the **Select a Task** dialog box, select **Copy Disc**.
3. Under **Source**, select **Disc image file** then click **Browse** to open an image file.
4. Under **Destination**, choose your burner drive.
5. Click **Advanced** to see more burning options.
6. Set the **Write speed**. If there is a disc inserted in the burner drive, the program will check the write speed of the burner and the disc, and by default, will choose the highest speed that both can handle.
7. Specify the number of disc **Copies** to burn.
8. Select **Buffer underrun protection** to prevent interruptions in the flow of data from the hard disk to the burner and ensure a safe burn.
9. Click **OK** to start the burning process.

Handling rewritable discs

Rewritable discs such as CD-RW, DVD-RW, DVD+RW, and DVD-RAM are often used for regular backups, and they can be easily erased or reformatted to be written over again using Burn.Now's **Disc Tools**.

To access the tools, select **Disc Tools** in the **Select a Task** dialog box or select them from the **Disc** menu in the program window.

Erase

Erasing a rewritable disc removes the disc contents. There are two ways to erase a disc:

- **Quick erase -** Deletes only the Table of Contents of the disc. The file system, tracks and sectors on the disc are not physically removed. This method simply allows the disc to be overwritten.
- **Full erase -** Deletes all the information, including the file system, tracks and sectors from the disc.

UDF Format

UDF Format writes the UDF (Universal Disc Format) file system to a rewritable disc to enable random packet writing. Random packet writing allows disc space to be used more efficiently when burning data onto the disc. It allows data to be written onto the disc in the same way as the hard disk, freeing disc space as data are deleted, and reusing freed space. A disc can be formatted with UDF 1.5 or above. There are two options for formatting a disc:

- **Quick format** - Provides a fast way of reformatting a CD-RW that has previously been full formatted. It simply removes the file system table from the disc without checking for defects (that is, bad sectors) and writes the selected UDF file system to the disc.

  Burn.Now provides only the **Quick format** option for DVD+RW and DVD-RW discs. These types of discs do not require full formatting, since in the process of writing data to these discs, they are also simultaneously formatted.

- **Full format** - Completely formats a CD-RW using the selected UDF file system, and writes new tracks and sectors onto the disc. This formatting method takes a longer time to complete, but it makes the disc error-free.

UDF Certify

For a UDF formatted DVD-RW and CD-RW, you can apply disc certification to scan the disc and check if there is any problem. The certification process marks bad sectors to improve future writing reliability. On DVD-RW and CD-RW burners that support DRT-DM (Distributed Real-Time Defect Management), the certification process also moves the data in the recoverable defected sectors (DRT-DM Level-1 and Level-2 defects, if any) to healthy sectors for further improvement in data reliability.

Checking burner and disc information

Before burning a disc, check the burner information to find out the capabilities of your burner. It is also recommended that you check disc status and other information before overwriting its contents.

Checking burner capabilities

To find out about the capabilities of your burner, select **Burner: Select Burner** and choose the burner drive. The dialog box will show the read and write speeds of your burner.

Click **Advanced** to see more information about the burner. A list of disc formats and write methods will then be displayed. Items with check marks indicate the disc formats that your burner can read from and write to as well as the different write and error-handling methods that your burner uses when burning a disc.

Note: You can also check burner information in **Edit Disc**, **Copy Disc**, or **Disc Tools**. Click in the **Select a Task** dialog box then select **Drive Information**.

Checking disc properties

Select **Burner: Disc Information** to check how much information has already been written to the disc. The dialog box will show the disc media type, its capacity, and the number of tracks and sessions that have been written onto the disc.

Click **Advanced** to see more information about your disc. Items with check marks indicate the current status of your disc (for instance, whether it is blank or a UDF formatted disc), and the types of operations that can be performed on your disc.

Note: You can also check disc information in **Edit Disc**, **Copy Disc**, or **Disc Tools**. Click in the **Select a Task** dialog box then select **Disc Information**.

Appendix A: Menus and commands

Disc menu

Create Disc [Ctrl+N]	Creates a new data, audio, or MP3 disc.
Edit Disc	Modifies the contents of a disc.
Copy Disc	Copies disc to disc, disc to image file, or image file to disc.
Burn Disc [Ctrl+R]	Writes information to a disc.
Erase Disc	Removes the contents of a disc.
Format Disc	Formats a rewritable disc with the UDF file system.
Preferences [F6]	Opens the **Preferences** dialog box.
Exit	Closes Ulead Burn.Now.

Edit menu

Cut	Cuts a selection to the clipboard.
Copy	Copies a selection to the clipboard.
Paste	Pastes a selection from the clipboard.
Delete	Removes selected folders/files.
Select All	Selects all folders/files.
Select None	Clears all selections.
Inverse Selection	Reverses the selection to the unselected folders/files.
Sort by	Arranges folders/files in a specified order.
Move Track	Moves a selected track up or down.
Play	Plays a selected audio file.

Edit menu

Pause	Pauses playback.
Stop	Stops playback.

View menu

Toolbar	Shows or hides the **Toolbar**.
Disc-space Meter	Shows or hides the **Disc-space Meter**.
Status Bar	Shows or hides the **Status Bar**.

Tools menu

Find	Finds a file in your computer.
Convert Audio Files	Opens a dialog box where you can change an audio file's format and then save it as another file.
Rip CD Audio	Opens a dialog box where you can copy files from an audio CD and then store them in your hard drive.
Add Files	Adds files to the Disc Layout Window.
Add Folder	Adds a folder or files from a folder to the Disc Layout Window.
Add from Explorer	Allows you to drag and drop folders/files from Windows Explorer to the Disc Layout Window.

Burner menu

Select Burner	Selects the disc burner.
Disc Information	Displays disc status and other information.

Appendix B: Troubleshooting

Q. When I insert a data disc in the burner drive and select **Edit Disc**, the program prompts this message: "Please insert a disc and make sure the disc is editable."

A. If the disc is closed or write-protected, it cannot be edited.

Q. I created a data disc with the ISO 9660 file system. Why did parts of file names and folder names on the disc changed to underscore '_' characters?

A. ISO 9660 file names and folder names are limited to characters A-Z, numbers 0-9, and an underscore '_'. Other special characters are not allowed, and they will be replaced with an underscore '_'. To retain special characters in file names and folder names, select the **Joliet** option in the Burn Disc dialog box.

Q. Why doesn't the write speed combo box enumerate all the available speeds for my burner device?

A. Some burner device drivers cannot report all available write speeds completely, and Burn.Now can only display the information obtained from the burner device.

If you find that the program does not list all available write speeds for your burner device, contact Ulead technical support. Provide us with the following information: device vendor name, model number, and write speeds that your burner device supports.

Q. I compiled 4651MB of data files to create a data DVD, which has not exceeded the DVD disc capacity of 4.7GB. However, when I tried to burn the disc, a message is displayed saying that the disc does not have enough space.

A. Aside from the data files, additional information will be written to the disc: lead-in area (storing the table of contents); lead-out area (marking the end of a burning session); and file system information. The actual size to be burned to disc may therefore

be larger than the data size shown in the **Disc-space Meter** or the **Burn Disc** dialog box.

Q. I added .WMA files to create an audio disc but the program does not accept these files.

A. Check and make sure that the .WMA files are not content-protected.

Q. The program displays a disc error or disc type error message when I try to view the disc information. When I try to create a data disc, the program shows the following message: "The program cannot perform the task you selected using the current disc. Please check your disc and try again."

A. Check the disc's write speed to ensure that it is within the speed capability of your burner. Some burner drives write data on CD-RW using 4X speed only. If a higher speed disc (such as 10X or 12X) is used, such burner devices will not be able to properly recognize the disc and may treat it as a CD-ROM or corrupted disc.

Q. When burning a data disc, the error message "Failed to open file" is displayed and the burning process is aborted.

A. The message appears when files to be burnt are open or when you rename/delete files while burning the disc. Do not access or make changes to the files during the burning process.

Q. I am having problems burning discs with an external burner drive that uses a USB 2.0 connection.

A. If burner devices using a USB 2.0 connection do not function well with Ulead Burn.Now in Windows XP, update your system to Windows XP Service Pack 1 and then update the USB driver.

For details, visit Microsoft Web site at the following URL addresses:

http://www.microsoft.com/whdc/hwdev/bus/usb/XSLTsection125121120120

http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=KB;EN-US;Q329632&

Q. I am using an IDE burner drive enclosed in a USB 2.0 external box. When I try to burn discs, the program does not respond for a long time during the burning process.

A. Problems in performance and stability may occur with some IDE burners when they are externally connected to the computer through a USB 2.0 or IEEE-1394 adapter box. If the program is not responding during the burning process, try connecting the burner drive internally (that is, directly to the IDE interface).

Q. How do I check if a disc is compatible with my burner?

A. Some burner drives, especially DVD burners, are selective with certain CD/DVD media brands. When purchasing blank media discs, check the disc's compatibility with your burner drive.

One way to check the read/write compatibility of a disc with the burner is to select **Recorder: Disc Information** in Burn.Now. A disc error, disc not readable, or disc type error message may be displayed if the inserted disc is incompatible with your burner. The following message may also indicate that your disc is incompatible with the burner: "The program cannot perform the task you selected using the current disc. Please check your disc and try again." If you encounter any of these messages, try using another media.

Q. On Windows 2000 or XP, it only reads the first session of a multi-session DVD.

A. At the time of publication, on Windows 2000 (earlier than SP4) or XP, only the first session can be read from a multi-session DVD with more than 4GB data. Please install the latest patches from Microsoft to update your Windows system.

Appendix C: Glossary

Audio-only DVD-Video

A DVD burned in this format using Ulead Burn.Now is the same as the regular DVD-Video disc, except that the DVD is recorded with audio data only (without any video content). Similarly, recordings are stored as .vob files in the VIDEO_TS folder on the DVD.

CD-Text

Disc and track-related information on Audio CDs. CD-Text can only be read and displayed by CD-ROM drives and CD players that support the feature.

Disc-At-Once

A writing mode that allows data to be written continuously on the disc, without any interruptions. This mode closes the disc after the writing process.

DVD-Audio (DVD-A)

A format that allocates most of the DVD disc space to audio and is primarily used for recording high-quality songs and music on DVD. Audio can be recorded on DVD in a wide range of sampling frequencies between 44.1 kHz to 192 kHz and resolutions of 16, 20 or 24 bits, with up to six discrete channels.

A DVD-Audio disc contains two folders: AUDIO_TS and VIDEO_TS. AUDIO_TS stores high-quality audio as .aob files along with still images (for use as menu backgrounds), navigation, and text. A limited amount of conventional DVD-Video data can be recorded in the VIDEO_TS folder.

DVD-Audio discs can only be played in DVD-Audio capable players.

DVD-Video (DVD-V)

The standard format used for recording movies on DVD. MPEG-2 is the dominant video encoding method used in recording movies for its superlative video quality, although MPEG-1 may also be used. The audio part of the video can be encoded in formats such as PCM, Dolby Digital, or DTS (Digital Theater Sound). DVD-Video provides standard 4:3 and widescreen 16:9 aspect ratios, up to 9 camera angles, up to 8 languages, up to 32 subtitle tracks, fully interactive menus, and instant search of titles, chapters, music tracks, and timecode. DVD-Video discs can be played on standalone DVD players or on computers equipped with a DVD-ROM drive.

Incremental Write

A writing mode that sequentially appends data to the disc until the disc is full.

Joliet

A Microsoft extension to the ISO 9660 file system that handles long file names (up to 64 characters in length, including spaces).

Linear Pulse Code Modulation, Linear PCM (LPCM)

An uncompressed audio format that is similar to CD audio but with higher sampling frequencies and resolutions. It encodes audio on a DVD with a sampling frequency of 48 or 96kHz, resolution of 16, 20 or 24 bits per sample, and with up to eight channels. LPCM's maximum bit rate is 6.144 Mb/s, which is higher than Dolby Digital or MPEG-2.

Mount Rainier

A storage format for CD-RW media that is developed by the Mount Rainier Technical Group. It intends to make the use of CD-RW discs a lot easier by allowing drag-and-drop file copying. Unlike conventional CD-RW burners, Mount Rainier capable burners provide background formatting and defect management features.

On-the-fly

A writing process that allows direct disc-to-disc copying without saving a temporary disc image file on the hard disk.

Random Packet Write

A writing process where small amounts of data can be written and deleted in one action. This writing method allows disc space to be used more efficiently when burning data onto the disc. It allows data to be written onto the disc in the same way as the hard disk, freeing disc space as data are deleted and reusing freed space.

Raw Mode

A disc writing process which reads and writes data as is. In this mode, the disc burner does not correct or repair errors before burning data onto the disc. If this method is used, errors on the original source will also be present on the disc.

Restricted Overwrite

A writing method for DVD-RW that allows random overwriting of data. This method can only be used on pre-formatted DVD-RW discs.

Session-At-Once

A method that writes data in one uninterrupted sequence, that is, by session. A session is an area on the disc that contains one or more tracks depending on the amount of data burnt at a time. This writing method always closes each session but leaves the disc open.

Test Write

A simulation of the burning process before actually writing data to the disc.

Track-At-Once

A writing mode that writes data to a disc by track. When burning a disc in this mode, the burner's laser turns on and off in between tracks, creating a gap between tracks. (This is equivalent to two-second gaps of silence between audio tracks on an Audio CD.)

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