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Thorsten Stärk: X-CD-Roast 0.98alpha14 Manual

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Version



Version of this manual: 0.7 for X-CD-Roast 0.98alpha14 from 2003-05-26
Find the latest version [here](#).

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You want to help develop this tutorial or derive it for your purposes ? Fine ! [Here](#) you will find hints.

If something does not work



Please be sure to check the README-file and the [online-FAQ for X-CD-Roast 0.98alpha14](#) first before mailing any questions. And check for a newer version under www.xcdroast.org. There you will also find the author's e-mail.

Saying thanks



A big thank you goes to:
Thomas Niederreiter - for his experienced support and his graphics
Jochen Stärk - for the layout of his tutorial and documl

Prolog

[The first start](#) →

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The first start

↓ [The first start](#)

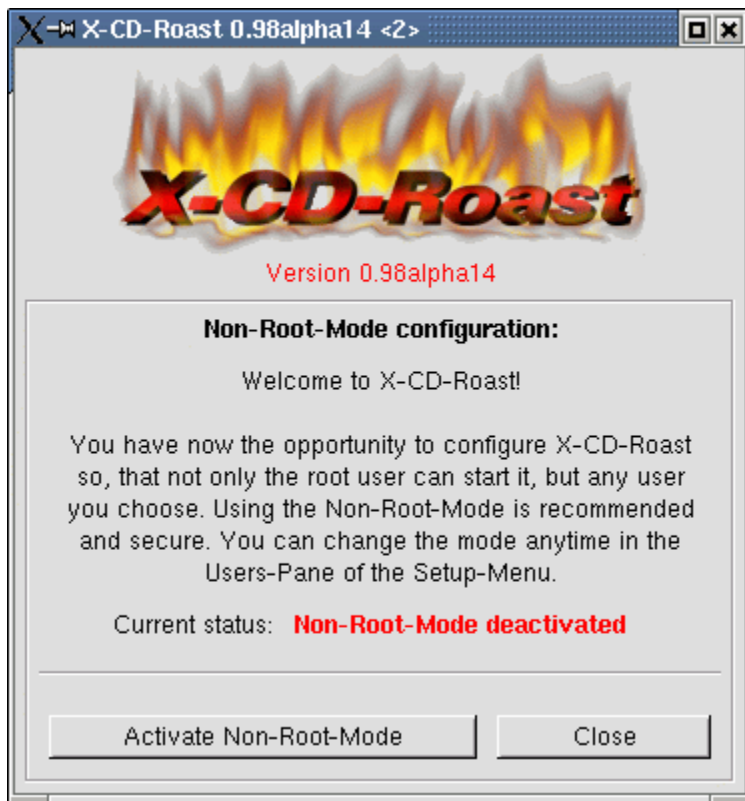
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The first start



So you have downloaded, configured and installed your X-CD-Roast or someone else has done it for you. You now want to start it for the first time.

Because you will have to do some settings, change your user id to root. Then, start the program by typing `xcdroast`. At first, a device-scan starts. When ready, click on **OK**. Then, you will get a message like this:



To enable other users than root running X-CD-Roast, we suggest activating the non-root-mode. This should be easy-going. Some distributions ship X-CD-Roast with the non-root-mode disabled. In this case after typing "xcdroast" as a normal user, a popup with a request for the root-password comes up. In this case, replace your X-CD-Roast by a version from www.xcdroast.org. After activating the non-root-mode as well as after clicking on "Launch X-CD-Roast", you should see a window telling you that there is no configuration file and you should set it up. Click OK, we will do it right now. As the next step, the Main Menu of X-CD-Roast shows up:



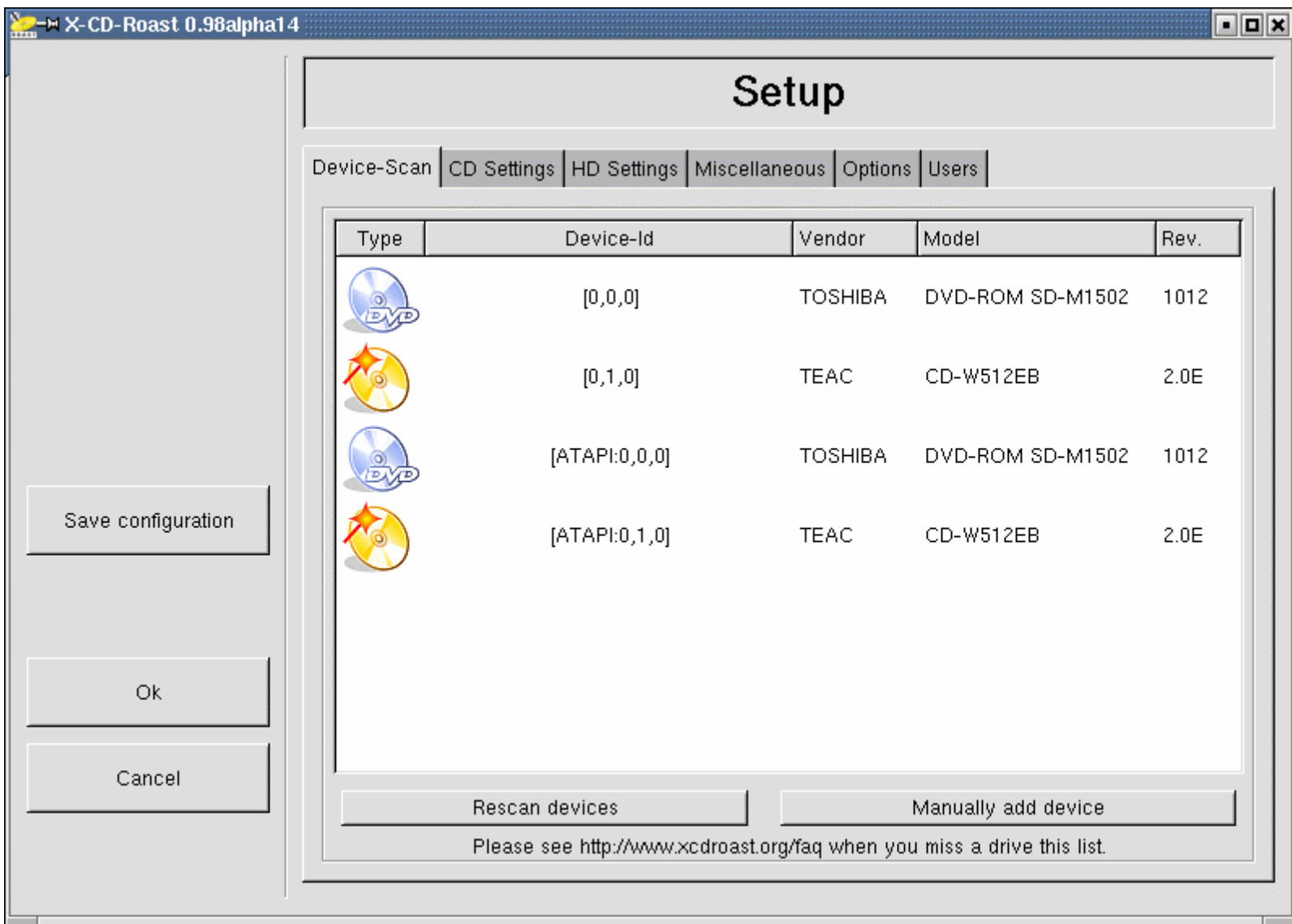
Note that you can only set up the configuration, the other buttons are disabled because they depend on it.

The setup process



To enter the setup, click on "**Setup**" in the main menu. Every ordinary user has his own settings, they are stored in his home directory under `.xcdroast`. If you want to find out more about where something is stored, try the [verbose mode](#)

The first page of the setup screen looks like that:

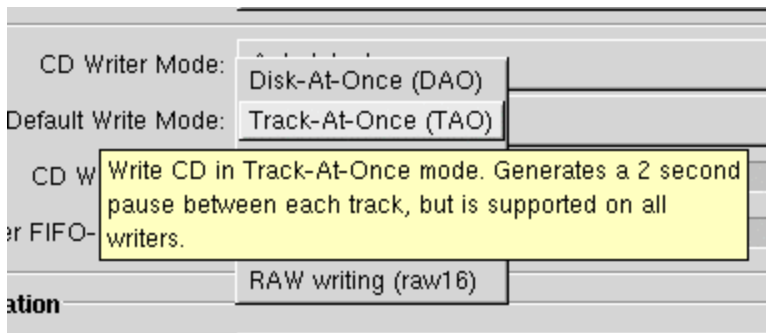


This is the Device-Scan of X-CD-Roast. You can double-click on a device and get information about it. We see here a common error: double detected devices - this happens because scsi-emulation was not installed completely. Writing will work as expected but the scanning might be confusing. Best remove the devices with ATAPI in its device-id by right-click on it and selecting "remove". Besides that, you should at least do the following settings:

CD settings

select CD-writer, CD-writer speed, primary & secondary read device and read speed.
 Select **"paranoia mode"** if you want perfect quality at low speed when [ripping CDs](#)

If you are unsure about any option, you can use X-CD-Roast's *tooltip help*. Try it! Rest your mouse-cursor over an item for 2 seconds, and an explanation will show up, for example about the default write mode:



The tooltip-help is not only a setup-feature, but available on each of X-CD-Roast's screens.

If it is not yellow, what is default on most systems, add the following lines to your ~/.gtkrc file, or to /usr/local/etc/gtk/gtkrc (or /etc/gtk/gtkrc - depends where you installed GTK):

```
style "gtk-tooltips-style" {
    bg[NORMAL] = "#ffffc0"
}

widget "gtk-tooltips" style "gtk-tooltips-style"
```

HD settings

Select a path to store your CD-images to (size: about 700 MB each). Do not forget to click on **"Add"**. Note that you can only add one directory of each partition. You can find out what partitions your paths belong to by running the command [df](#).

If you have several image directories (on several partitions), X-CD-Roast will distribute all read tracks automatically to the available directory in case it would run out of space otherwise. However, it won't break up big images - so a 600 MB image cannot be stored when you have 400 MB free in one directory and 500 MB free in the other. On the other hand an audio-disk with 10 tracks needing about 70 MB disk space each can be stored easily. The first 5 tracks would fit in the first directory and the other 5 in the second.

Miscellaneous

Choose your DSP-device, that is your soundcard. Try /dev/dsp and click on "test" to hear a demo sample. If you have one, set up your proxy for connections to the CDDDB server.

Users

In this tab, you can realize your own privilege management, granting and revoking permissions as well as allowing and denying access to special users from special hosts. We recommend setting it to allow everyone everything, in large-scale environments, you will have your own privilege concept that you can go along with.

>>> now don't forget to click on "Save Configuration" <<<



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How to duplicate a CD



OK, so you have an audio or data CD and want to get two or more of them. There are two ways of duplicating a CD:

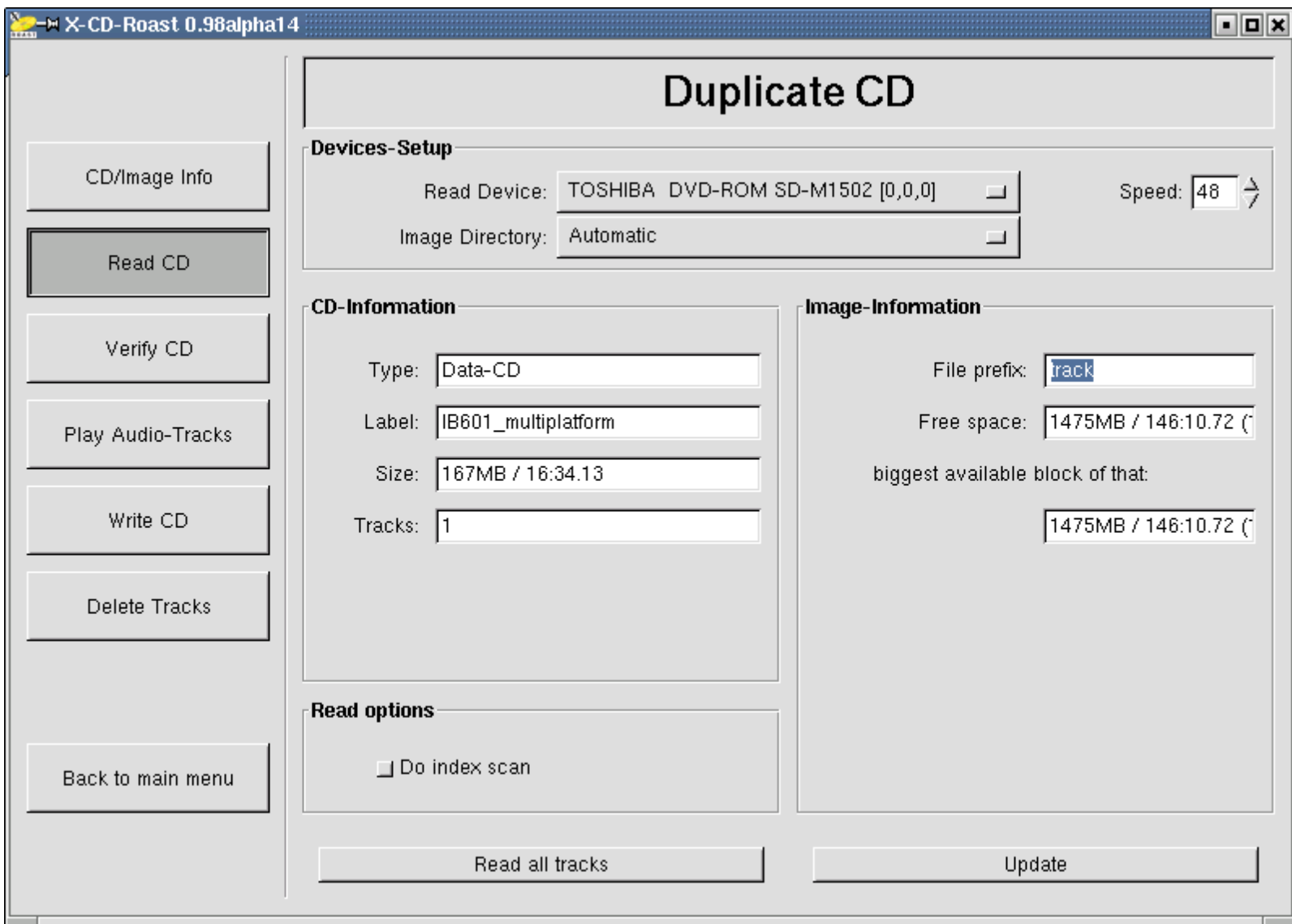
- you can create an image of your CD, store it on your hard disc and then burn it onto your CD or
- you can copy the CD on-the-fly

Copying on-the-fly is faster than creating an image, but a buffer underrun is more likely. So, use it if you have a burn-proof-reader.

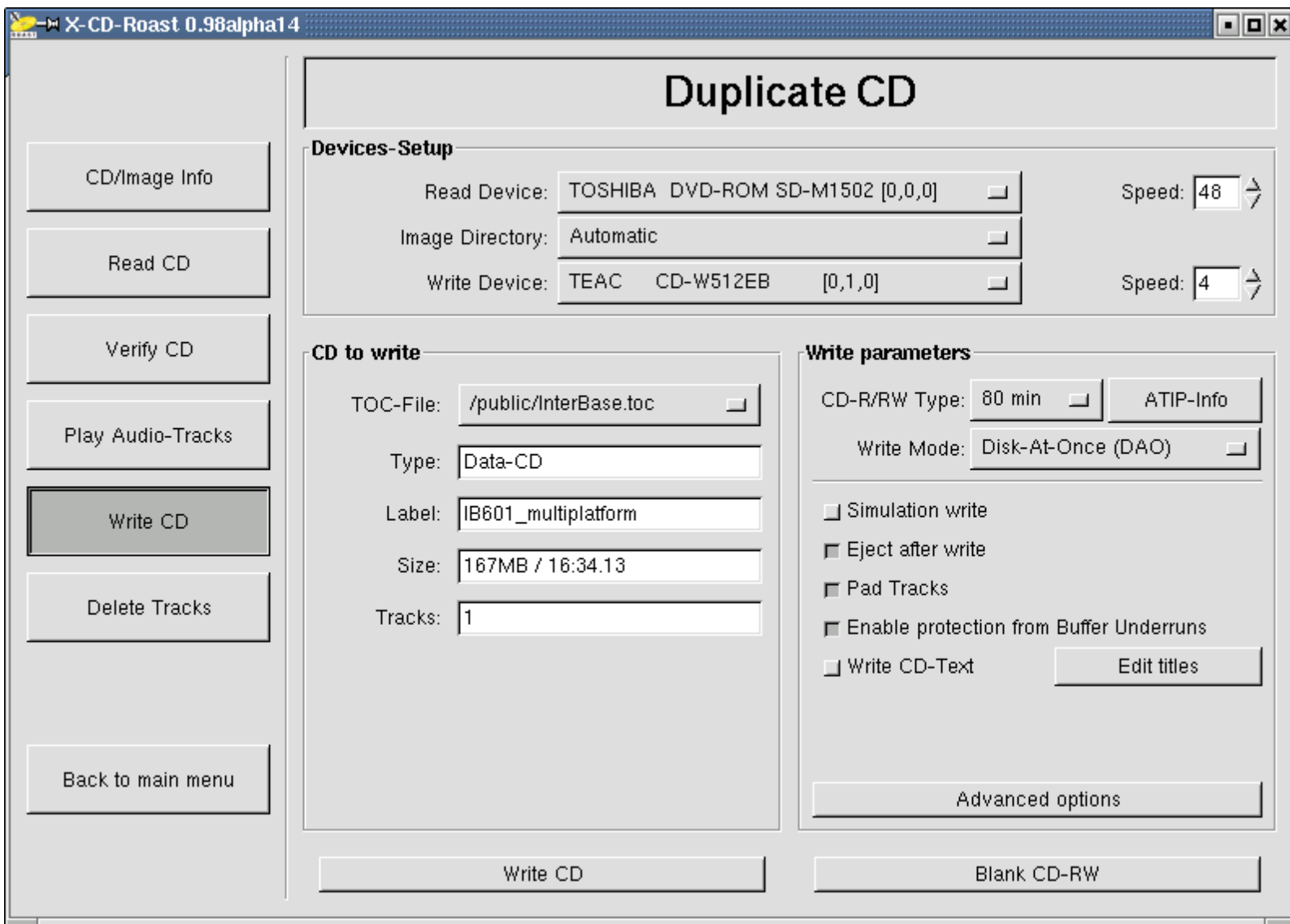
How to copy a CD using an image



Start xcdroast and chose "**Duplicate CD**" in the main menu.



On the screen, the CD/Image Info appears, it reports about your CD in the drive and about the images on your harddisc. Click on Read CD, chose your read device, reading speed and give a file prefix that will be used to store your image on the harddisc. Looks like that: Click on **"Read all tracks"** and the CD will be read and stored as an image on your harddrive. The message "Tracks successfully read appears". Click on OK and chose "Write CD" from the screen. Looks like this:

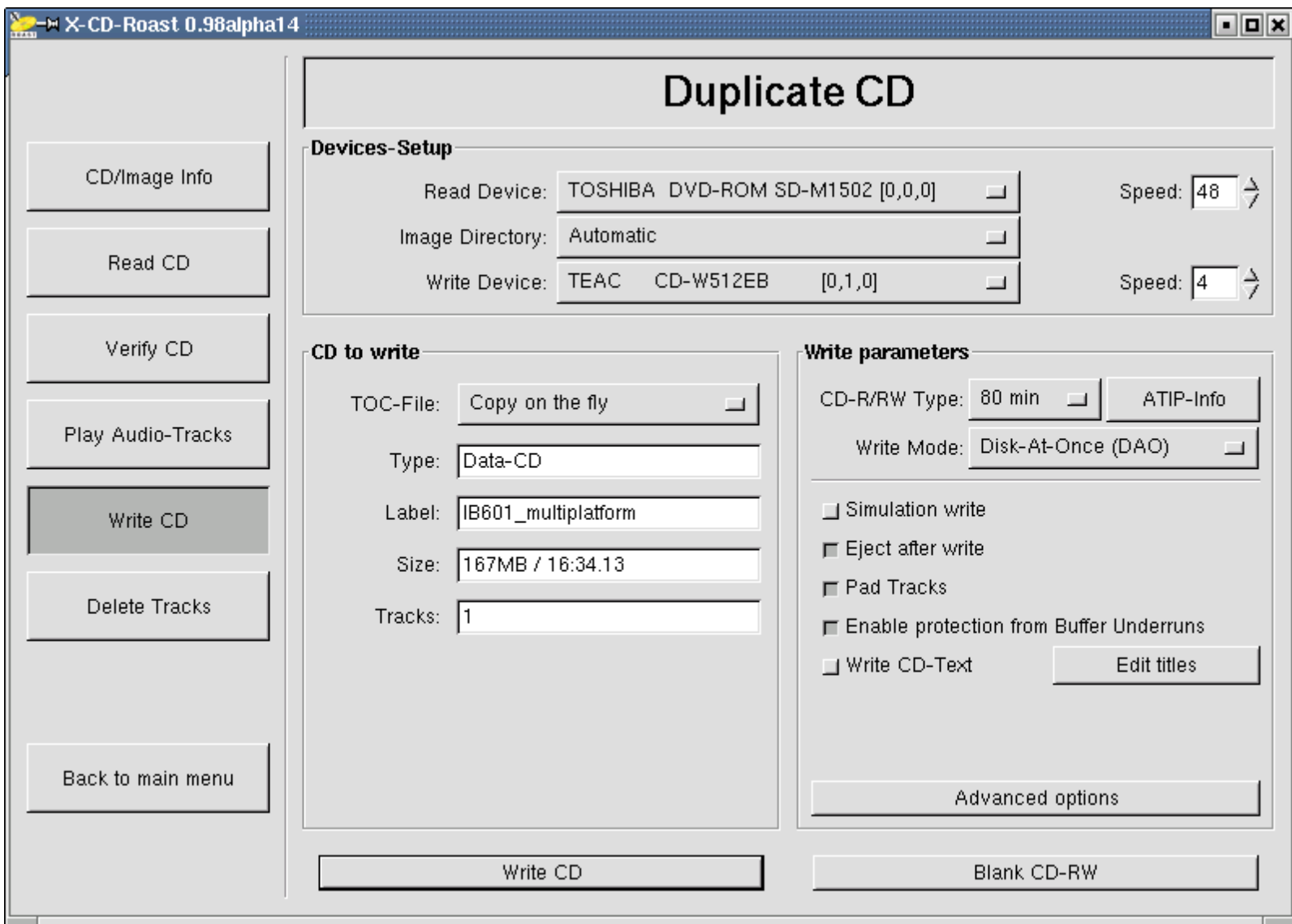


The device setup is contains what you specified during the [setup process](#). For the rest of the screen, let me point you to the great tooltip help of X-CD-Roast - just rest your mouse cursor over an item and a bubble pops up, giving explanation for everything you need. Note that the toc-file has been automatically filled out with the prefix you specified during the read process. So you can start burning by clicking on "Write CD".

How to copy on-the-fly



Start xcdroast, chose "**Duplicate CD**" and "**Write CD**". As toc-file, chose "**Copy on the fly**":

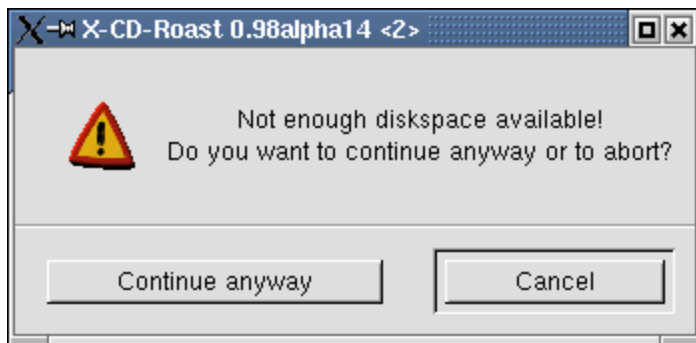


Click on the button "Write CD" (the lower one) and the copy process starts. Life can be so simple if you have a burn-proof-writer!

Solving problems



When reading CDs into an image, there might not be enough free space on your disc. Then, you see this message:



First, switch to the main menu of X-CD-Roast and chose "Setup", then "HD settings". Here you find the directory where your CDs' images are stored. Let's imagine it is /tmp and by typing `df` you find out, it belongs to the partition hda2. Now you have two practical possibilities:

- Free space on the partition hda2

- In setup, chose a directory in another partition that has enough space for a complete CD

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How to rip a CD

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How to rip a CD



Let's assume, you have an audio CD (with all intellectual rights) and want to backup the tracks to your harddisk.

This is no problem with X-CD-Roast. Put in your CD, start xcdroast, chose **"Create CD"** in the main menu and **"Read tracks"** from the next menu:

Create CD

Devices-Setup

Read Device: TEAC CD-W512EB [0,1,0] Speed: 32

Image Directory: Automatic

CD-Information

Tracks
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. audio track [2:41.53]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. audio track [2:19.44]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. audio track [2:28.46]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. audio track [2:49.30]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. audio track [2:43.34]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6. audio track [3:27.47]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7. audio track [2:37.24]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8. audio track [2:21.39]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9. audio track [2:45.64]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10. audio track [2:46.07]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11. audio track [2:17.58]

Label:

Selected: 86MB / 8:36.46

Image-Information

File prefix: stevie_wonder|

Free space: 1330MB / 131:46.48

biggest available block of that: 1330MB / 131:46.48

Read options

Do index scan

Select all Select none Read selected tracks

If you want the titles of the tracks, you can look them up (with an existing internet connection) via **CD/Image Info -> Query CDDB**. Now fill in a name in the textbox "File prefix". We take `stevie_wonder` as it is a CD from him. Select the tracks you want (in this case, 2, 4 and 6) and start by clicking on **"Read selected tracks"**. Wait till the message appears "tracks successfully read". Confirm with **"Ok"**. The tracks can now be found in the image-path you specified during the [setup process](#). They are named `stevie_wonder-02.wav`, `-04.wav` and `-06.wav`.

You can really play them, so, ripping was successful.

If you want to convert them to mp3, try `mpg123 -w myfile.wav myfile.mp3`.

If you want more quality, you should go to the [setup process](#), and activate the **"paranoia mode"** in the CD Settings. But be aware that speed will decrease significantly!

Additional information



X-CD-Roast creates for each .wav-file another file with the suffix .inf. It lists additional information stored on the CD in plaintext. Very interesting for techies !

The ripping is done by `cdda2wav`, a prerequisite for installing X-CD-Roast. Imagine your band created a CD with copy-protection for the songs, and you lost all other storage media for the songs, you now need the songs urgently and have not got them but on a copy-protected CD. You will probably be able to rip the CD nevertheless, as `cdda2wav` is one of the world's best software for that! But that depends strongly on the CD reading device.

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Overview



There are two possibilities where you get your data from:

- You have the files on your harddisk
- You have obtained an ISO-image for your CD(let's say from the internet)

And there are two possibilities how you can burn to your CD:

- You *master* your files together to an image, save it on disk and burn it on CD.
- You *master* your files together and burn them '*on the fly*' on CD.

Besides that, there are two enhancements you could want from your CD:

- You want it bootable
- You want to write on it several times (multi-session).

Now that's what's covered by this article. The different combinations of the above options make this article a real tour jumping from one point to another depending on what you want. The usage of CD-RWs is discussed [here](#)

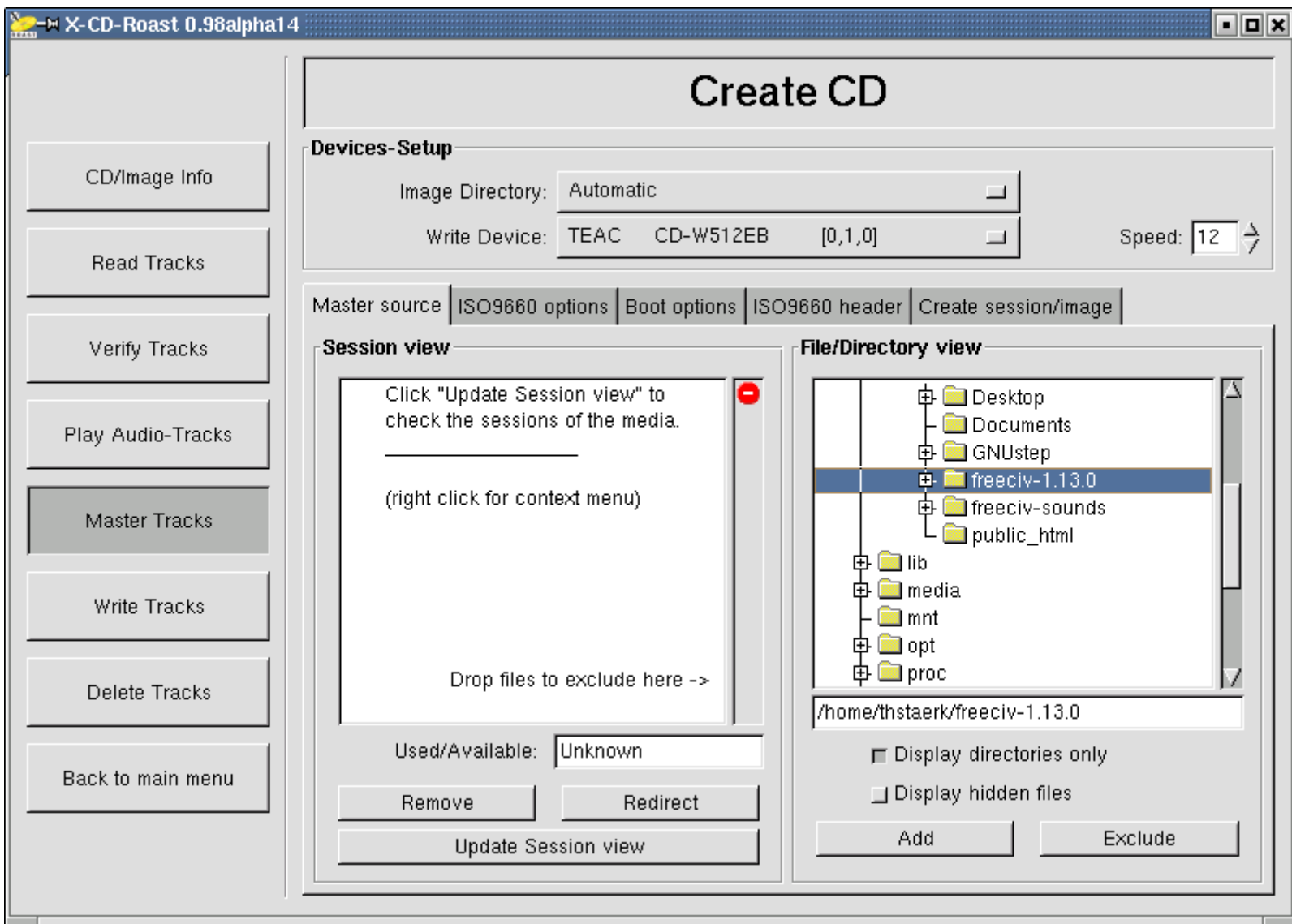
Step-by-step



If you want to burn a CD from an ISO-image, proceed with [Using an ISO-image to burn a CD](#).

How to get files from my harddisk on the CD

Start X-CD-Roast, chose **Create CD -> Master tracks**. About the following screen appears:



There are two windows in the screen: on the right, you see the contents of your harddisk, on the left, you see the layout of your data-CD so far. You can use full drag+drop in that menu. Just drag the files/paths from the right to the left window to add and the other way to remove. You can also drag files from Gnome and KDE filemanagers into that session view window.

Add the paths you want to have on your CD to the session view. Now you can open several tabs and change options. If you are not sure, leave it out. Most options will default to your wishes:

- ISO9660 options - Change your CD's format. For example, you can decide on the length of filenames.
- Boot options - Make your CD bootable on different hardware-architectures. If you want this, proceed [here](#)
- ISO 9660 header - Set publishing information about the CD, for example, your name

Next, click on the tab "Create session/image". The session will be created and your CD's size will be calculated automatically. The next step is to decide whether you want to write on-the-fly or store an image on your harddisk. Usually, you will burn on the fly if you have a burn-proof CD-device and otherwise save an image to the disk.

Writing on-the-fly

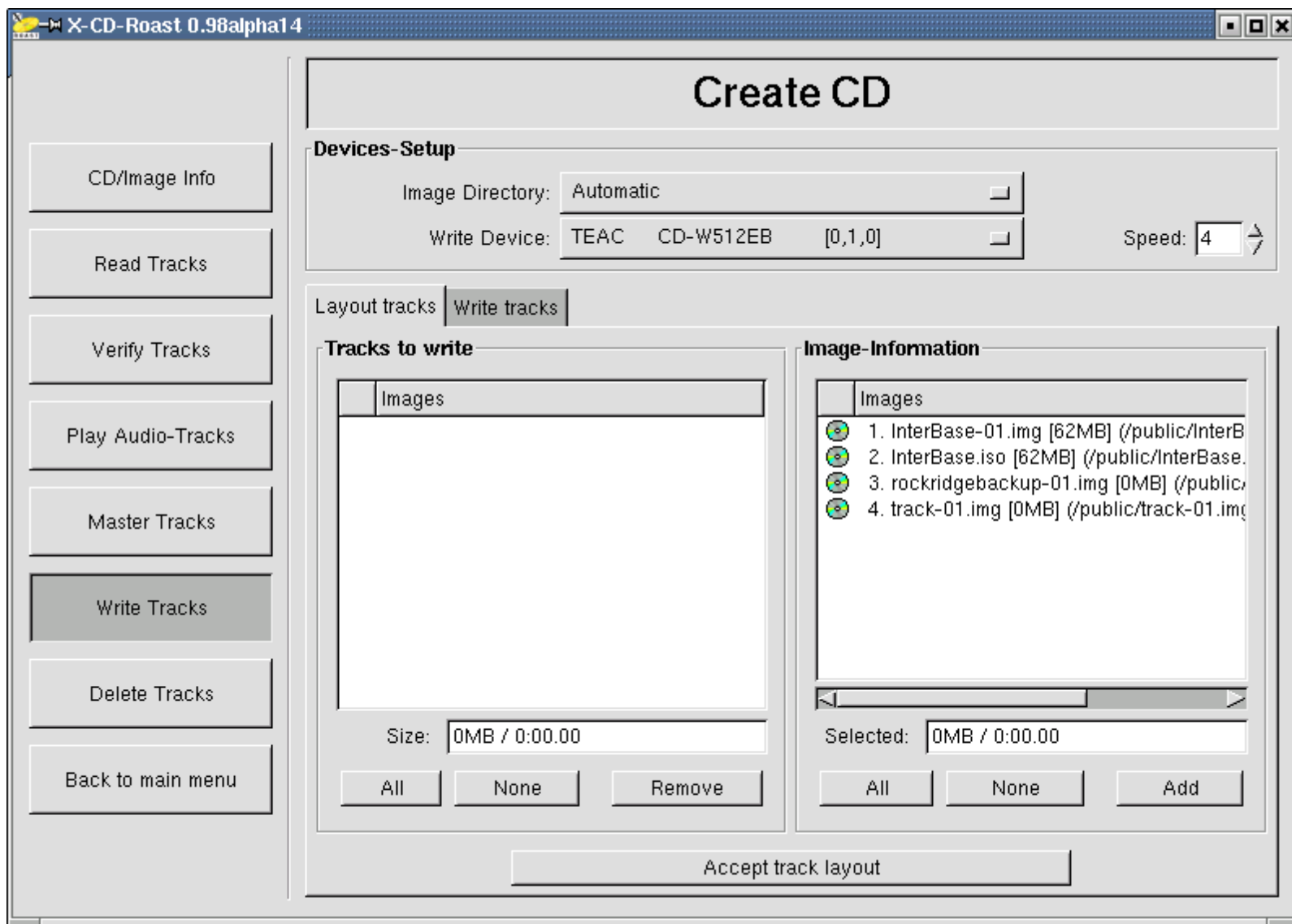
If you want to write on-the-fly, decide whether you want a multi session CD and check the button "Write as multi session" as appropriate. Then, click on "Master and write on-the-fly". Insert a CD and confirm this step. Your CD will be ready in a few minutes.

Storing files in an image on the harddisk

If you need to *master* your files to an image, first change the textbox "file prefix" to something you can remember. We take the prefix "example". Then, click on "**Master to image file**". After a short while, a message saying "mastering successful" appears. You can now write the tracks on CD.

Writing the tracks

Select **"Write tracks"** to come to a screen like this:

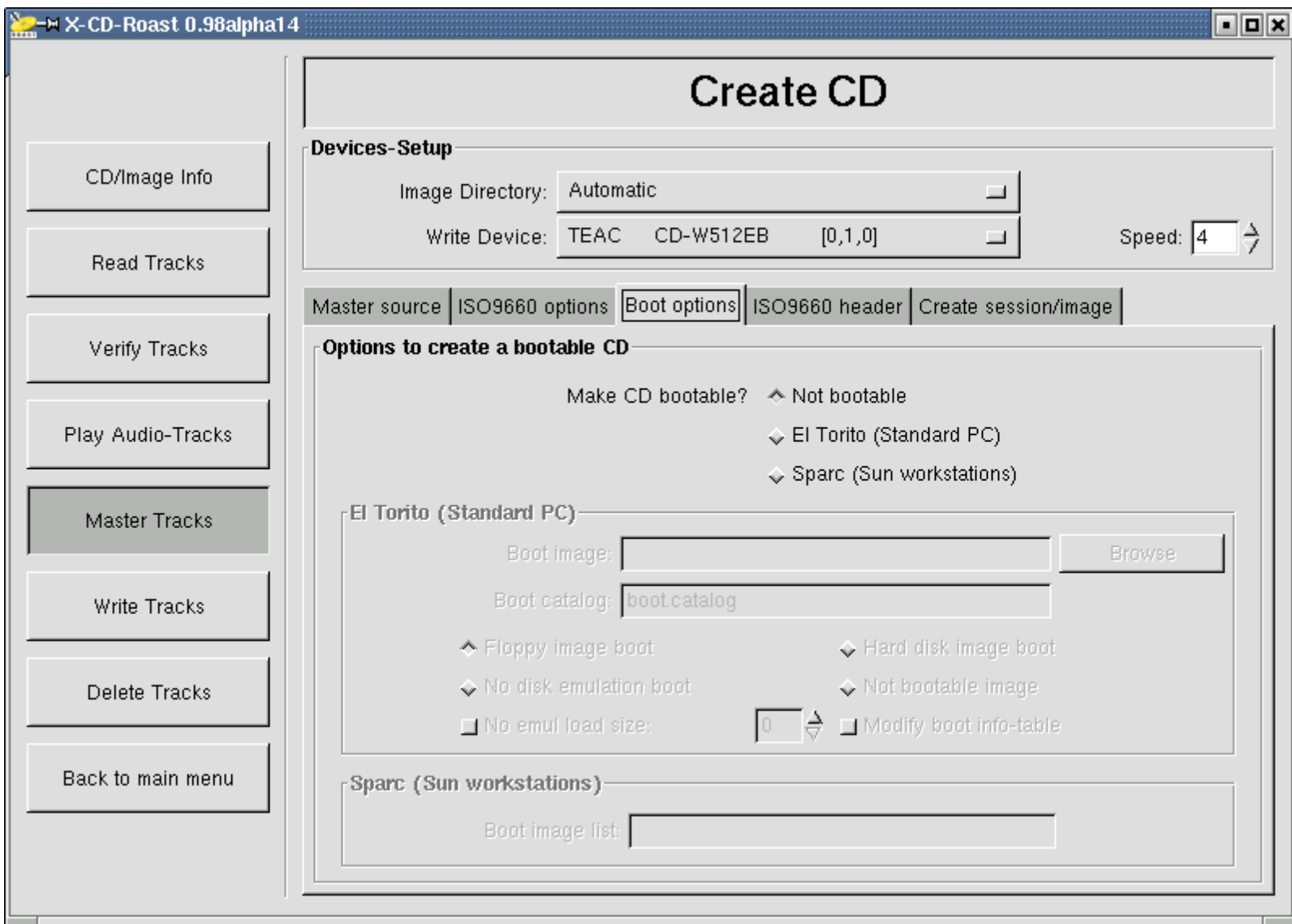


Here you can also use drag+drop to add files to write or, if you have several, to rearrange them. Add your session ("example") to the CD, then click on **"Accept track layout"**. The tab changes from "Layout tracks" to "Write tracks". To start writing (burning) click on the lower button "write tracks". Insert a CD and confirm by clicking on "OK". After a few minutes, your new CD should be ready.

How to make it bootable



To make a CD bootable, you first need a bootable image, for example, from a bootdisk. To get this, put a bootdisk of your favorite operating system into the floppy drive fd0 and type `dd if=/dev/fd0 of=/tmp/bootdisk.img`. The computer will save a file named bootdisk.img. It must be located in a folder that you added to your CD (in this example, you must have the folder /tmp added). After that, go to **Create CD -> master tracks -> boot options** in X-CD-Roast.



Click on El Torido, then on "Browse" and fetch your image from /tmp. When your CD is ready, you will be able to boot a standard computer with. To get it ready, [proceed with mastering your CD](#).

Using an ISO-image to burn a CD



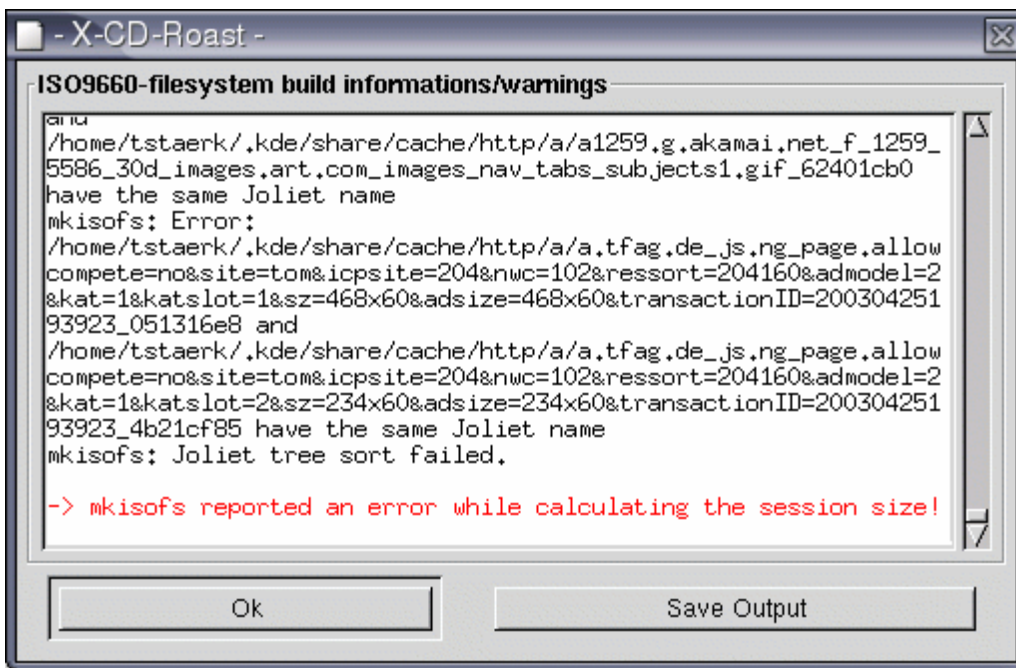
Copy your image file into a folder that you specified as image-directory during the [setup process](#). I will call your image example.iso; it should have the suffix .iso. After you copied it, things are as if you had read the image with X-CD-Roast. So, you can start xcdroast, select **Create CD** and proceed with [writing the tracks](#).

Solving problems



Error while calculating session size

When calculating the size of your future CD, the whole layout of the file system is created. Problems with filenames will come up then. Let's, for example, look at this one:

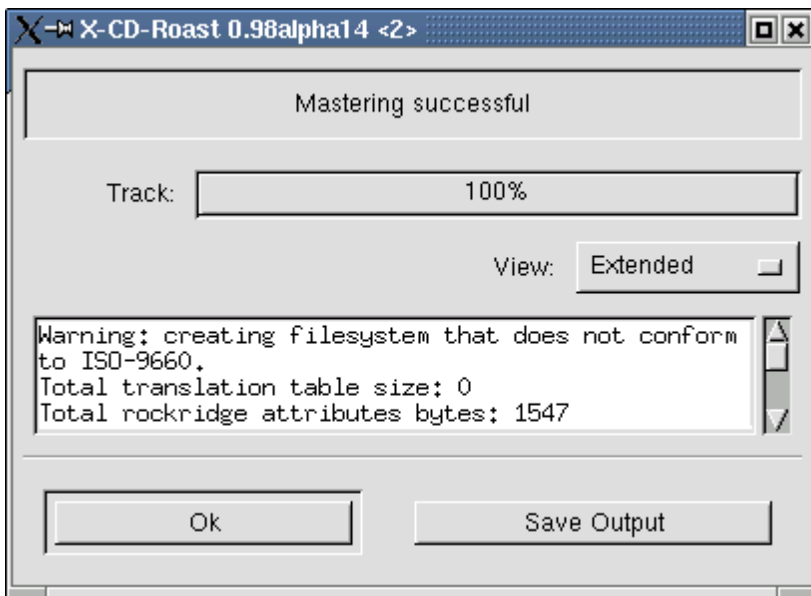


If you look at it closely, you will find that the error was caused by two files that will have the same name on the CD. This is because Joliet cuts filenames at 64 Characters. Possible solutions include: Enable "Allow 103 character Joliet filenames" option.

- under "ISO9660 options" enable "Allow 103 Character Joliet filenames"
- renaming (at least) one of the two files
- under "ISO9660 options" turning off Joliet works too, but is not often wanted

Warning while calculating session size

If the warning comes up that your filesystem is not conform to ISO9660:



Don't worry. No one needs to burn fully conforming ISO-9660 CDs nowadays.

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How to create an audio CD

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How to create an audio CD



In this chapter we will create an audio CD out of a sound files stored on your computer. Perhaps you got these files by [ripping CDs](#) or from the internet. In every case verify that your action is legal and does not violate any copyright laws in your country. First, you need your music files in the right format. It must be a .wav-file in CD-quality (44.1khz, 16 bit, stereo). Let's take song.mp3 that a member of your band sent you via e-mail to write it on CD. Convert it to a .wav-file with the command `lame --decode song.mp3 song.wav`. Adopt the song.wav's format to CD-quality with the program [glame](#). Copy song.wav to your image-directory, then start xcdroast. Chose "Create CD" -> "Write tracks" -> "Layout tracks"

Create CD

Devices-Setup

Image Directory: Automatic

Write Device: TEAC CD-W512EB [0,1,0] Speed: 12

Layout tracks Write tracks

Tracks to write

Images
1. song.wav [2:45.00]

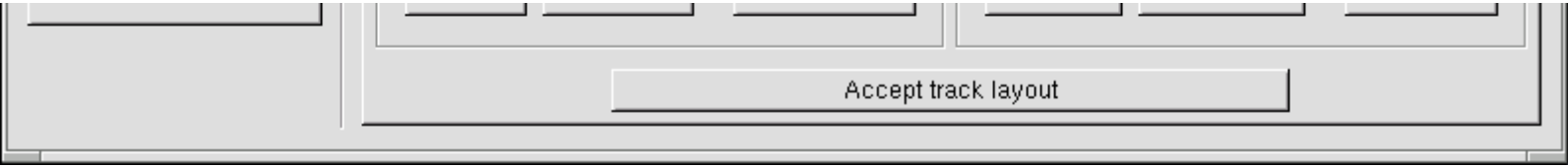
Size: 27MB / 2:44.74

Image-Information

Images
1. InterBase-01.img [62MB] (/public/InterB
2. InterBase.iso [62MB] (/public/InterBase.
3. rockridgebackup-01.img [0MB] (/public/
4. song.wav [2:45.00] (/public/song.wav)
5. track-01.img [0MB] (/public/track-01.img
6. Ein Freund, Ein Guter Freund [2:18.67]
7. Mein Lieber Schatz, Bist Du Aus Spani
8. Liebling, Mein Herz Lässt Dich Grüßen

Selected: 0MB / 0:00.00

All None Remove All None Add



Accept track layout

Now add song.wav and all other tracks you want to your CD and click on "**Accept track layout**". The tab jumps to "**Write tracks**". Insert a CD-R (not a CD-RW as CD-players often cannot read them) and you can start burning your audio-CD by clicking on the button "**Write tracks**" (the lower one).

Solving problems








Your .wav-files are ignored in the tab "layout track". When adding a .wav-file to your image directory, you find it with a red slash through it in the CD/Image Info, like that:

Image-Information

Images

Path: /tmp

-  1. laughter.wav [0:00.09]
-  2. test.wav [0:00.47]
-  3. track-02.wav [2:52.30]
-  4. track-04.wav [3:05.27]
-  5. track-07.wav [3:14.68]

That's because not a CD-quality wav-file. It has to be 44.1khz, 16 bit, stereo. Convert it to that format and it will work. To do this, try the software [glame](#).

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How to burn DVDs

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Overview



To burn a DVD in X-CD-Roast, you have to set a media size greater than 1 GB in the media selection drop box, you must have a DVD-Writer, and you need a plugin as well as a DVD-key. The rest is the same, X-CD-Roast switches automatically from burning CDs to burning DVDs. In this chapter, we will download the plugin and the DVD-key. The plugin is named `cdrecord-ProDVD`. It is used *in addition* to `cdrecord`. `Cdrecord` is the library used to burn usual CDs. With the latest releases of `cdrecord-ProDVD`, as well CD-R/RW as DVD-R/RW are now supported.

Setting up the files



Make sure you have a kernel version 2.4.x or higher. (you can test this with the command `uname -a`). Next, download the appropriate binary of `cdrecord-ProDVD` for your system from:

<ftp://ftp.berlios.de/pub/cdrecord/ProDVD>

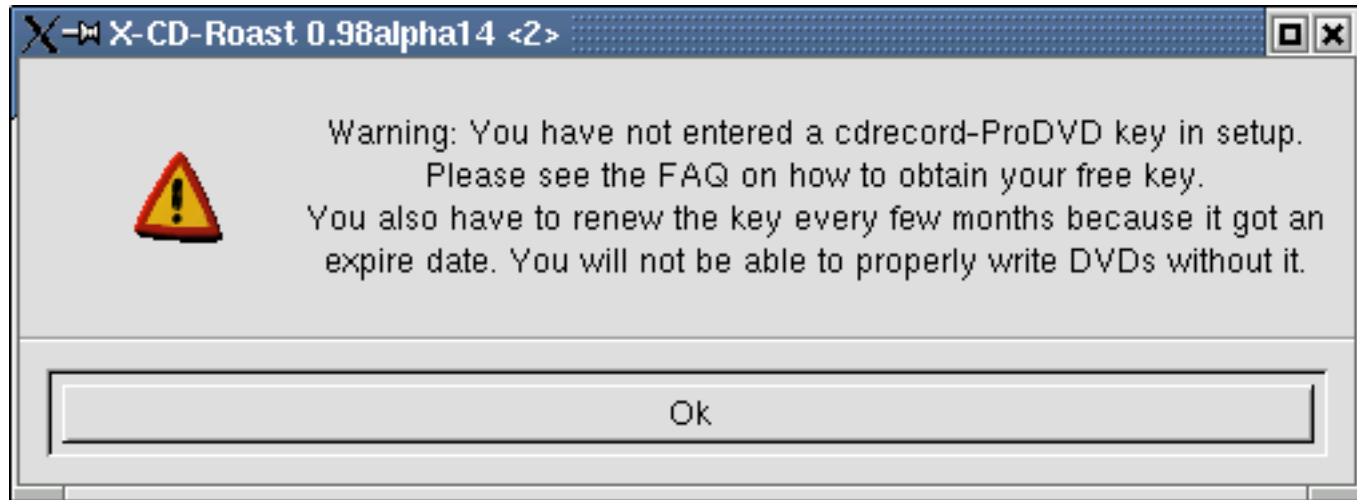
For current linux distributions this would be the binary that ends in `-i586-pc-linux-gnu`, e.g. `cdrecord-prodvd-2.01a12-i586-pc-linux-gnu`

What you downloaded is a binary, that means, it can directly be used. So, copy it to the xcdroast-bin directory (mostly /usr/lib/xcdroast-0.98/bin or /usr/local/lib/xcdroast-0.98/bin). Name it "cdrecord.provd". (I spent 2 hours of error tracking because I renamed it to "cdrecord-provd", what is wrong!) Call `chmod 755 cdrecord.provd` to make it executable.

Setting up the DVD-key



Now start X-CD-Roast. You will get a message like this:



Congratulations! That means, X-CD-Roast has detected the binary of cdrecord-provd used by you. Quickly get a DVD-key (only for private use) from <ftp://ftp.berlios.de/pub/cdrecord/ProDVD/README>. It will be in a line like this:

```
CDR_SECURITY=something
```

In this case, the DVD-key is *something*. Copy it into the textfield **Setup -> Options -> CDR_SECURITY key** and click on **Save Configuration**. Now, X-CD-Roast should write DVDs instead of CDs if your media size exceeds 1 GB.

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How to burn DVDs

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CD-RWs



CD-RWs are re-writeable CDs, CD-Rs can only be written once.

X-CD-Roast make **no difference** between CD-Rs and CD-RWs. Note that

- The button "**Blank CD-RW**" (for example under Duplicate CD -> Write CD) does not make sense for CD-Rs
- CD-RWs will be written much slower
- CD-RWs will mostly not be played by a CD-Player.

df



df is a text-based front-end to analyse partition settings. We use it especially to find out what partition a folder belongs to. If, for example df returns the following output:

Filesystem	1K-blocks	Used	Available	Use%	Mounted on
/dev/hda5	5116504	4154152	962352	82%	/
/dev/hda7	15522	4811	9910	33%	/boot
shmfs	128064	0	128064	0%	/dev/shm
/dev/sr1	661736	661736	0	100%	/media/cdrom
/dev/sr0	660872	660872	0	100%	/media/dvd
/dev/hda1	18425536	4741280	13684256	26%	/windows/C
/dev/hda8	14965936	7876352	7089584	53%	/windows/D

It means the following: The partition hda5 (/dev/hda5) is the root directory, mounted on /. All sub-directories belong to that partition, except /boot, /dev/shm, /media/cdrom, and so on. All sub-directories of /boot belong to hda7, all subdirectories of /dev/shm belong to the shmfs and so on. As you can only use one directory of each partition to save CD images, you could for example use the four directories /tmp, /boot/subdir, /windows/C/temp and /windows/D/spiele. The command does even more, it shows you that it does not make sense to use a subdirectory of /boot. There is not enough space available.

glame



Glame is a graphical program to convert between different audio formats. We use it especially to adopt settings in .wav-files. You can get it from your distribution or from www.glame.de.

lame



lame is a text-based front-end to convert between different audio formats. We use it especially to decode .mp3-files to .wav-files to be able to write them on a audio-CD. You can get it from your distribution or from www.lame.org. Type the following to decode myfile.mp3 to myfile.wav: `lame --decode myfile.mp3 myfile.wav`

mpg123



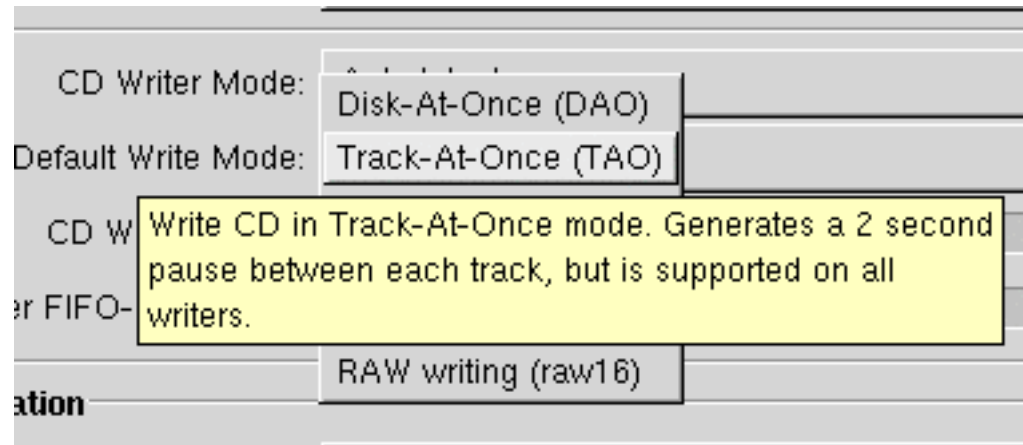
mpg123 is a text-based front-end to convert between different audio formats. We use it especially to encode .wav-files to .mp3-files to save valuable space on your hard disc. You can get it from your distribution or from www.mpg123.org. Type the following to encode myfile.wav to myfile.mp3:

```
mpg123 -w myfile.wav myfile.mp3.
```

Tooltip-help



X-CD-Roast provides tooltip (bubble-) help on all screens. Try it! Chose **Setup -> CD Settings -> Default write mode** and rest your cursor 2 seconds over Track-at-Once:



What you get is a perfect explanation what it is for.

Verbose mode



Imagine you are admin and want to set X-CD-Roast so that every user has the same configuration status. How do you find out what files to manipulate? Imagine you have a very ugly error that you want to track as precise as possible. How do you find out what exactly X-CD-Roast did? The answer to both questions is the *verbose mode*. When activated, X-CD-Roast logs every important task it does. It can be set more or less strict. Activate it by choosing **Setup -> Miscellaneous -> Log level** (and do not forget to "**Save Configuration**"). Very important for error tracking!

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Appendix B: Glossary

[Appendix C: Reference →](#)

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By keyword

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