

Creating or mounting an ISO (virtual CD-ROM or DVD)

Software distributed on CD or DVD sometimes requires it to be on the media to install or otherwise work. You can distribute the content virtually as an *.iso file, and then mount that file so the OS thinks it's an actual CD or DVD.

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Windows

Creating an ISO

In Chemistry IT, on Jan. 2018, we used the free utility, InfraRecorder:

- http://infrecorder.org/?page_id=5
 - http://loadion.com/en/how_to/Create-an-ISO-from-a-CD-or-DVD-using-InfraRecorder_98605618.html

More info on creating ISOs:

- <https://www.howtogeek.com/228886/how-to-create-iso-files-from-discs-on-windows-mac-and-linux/>

Copying or writing actual CD or DVD discs

- See "More info" section below.

Mounting ISO

Windows 8 or 10 have this mounting capability built in.

In Chemistry IT, we tend to use the free utility, Virtual CloneDrive:

- <https://www.redfox.bz/en/download.html>

MS's utility:

- <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=38780>
- Virtual CD-ROM Control Panel
- winxpvirtualcdcontrolpanel_21.exe

Useful how-to for ISO mounting, with other tool options:

- <http://www.howtogeek.com/howto/windows-vista/mount-an-iso-image-in-windows-vista/>

More info using such tools in Windows

Note that Oliver help Roald November 2017 (INC000002096631), and showed Roald:

- Auto-play DVDs (via VLC)
- Showed how to make *.iso from DVD.
- Showed how to make DVD from *.iso.
- Showed existing *.iso of DVD he has.

References used to develop the above workflow to made a disk copy of existing DVD.

- <https://www.howtogeek.com/howto/2696/how-to-rip-dvds-with-vlc/>
- <http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-rip-DVDs-for-free-with-VLC/>

Use free version of pay-software:

- <http://www.techradar.com/news/the-best-free-dvd-ripper>

Ex of pay software with likely acceptable on-going trial mode:

- <https://www.winxdvd.com/buy.htm>

Mac

Mac's tend to use DMG's, not ISOs.

Mounting

- DMG's (and ISO's) "just mount".