CD Burning With WMP 10

(from steve@worldstart.com)

Do you have the Windows Media Player (WMP) program downloaded on your computer? Do you have a CD burner either installed inside your computer or as an external device? If so, did you know that you can burn CDs any time you want with just those two things? Well, if you didn't, you know now and I'm going to go over the procedure with you today, so you won't ever have to question how to do it. Are you ready to have some CD burning fun?! Let's go!

For this article, I will be using WMP version 10, but the other versions work similarly. Just keep in mind that things may be a little bit different with the other versions. Also, if you would like to use this information but don't have WMP on your computer yet, you can download it here. And one more thing, if you're not sure if you have a CD burner or not, here are some suggestions you can use to find out.

The burning process occurs when songs are converted to or copied onto a compact disc (CD) that can then be listened to in any CD player, stereo or even in your own car! Converting the songs from your computer onto a CD makes listening to your favorite songs much more convenient! You can back up your personal CDs and have an extra copy for home and one for the car. Listening to and enjoying your music can be accomplished with just a touch of your fingertips!

The songs you already have on your computer are saved as .wma files and they are then saved as music files on the CD, which can be played on any type of music player that plays CDs. The process is also very easy and short. Just follow these steps.
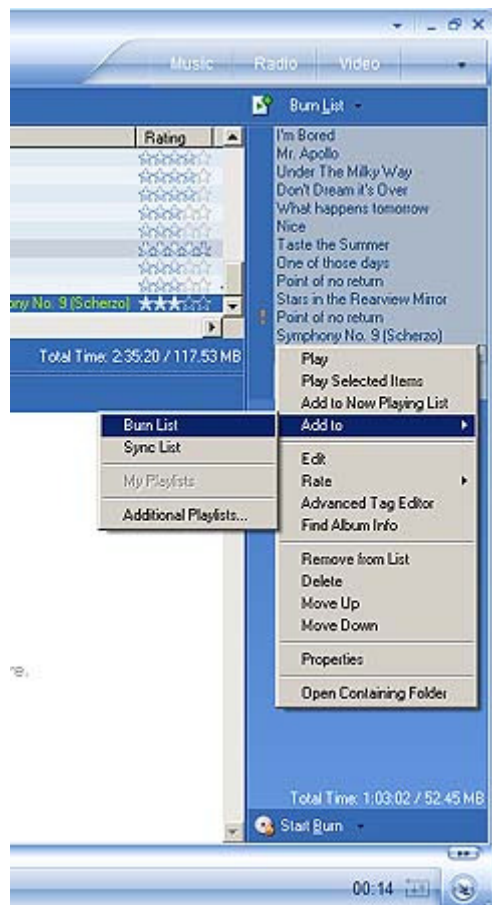
1. Open Windows Media Player and enter a blank CD into the CD burner drive (or the DVD drive), onto which the desired music files will be copied.

If making a backup copy of a CD, the original CD must first be ripped onto the computer and then burned onto a blank CD. This requires two separate processes (ripping and burning). After ripping the original music onto the computer, the burning process may follow.
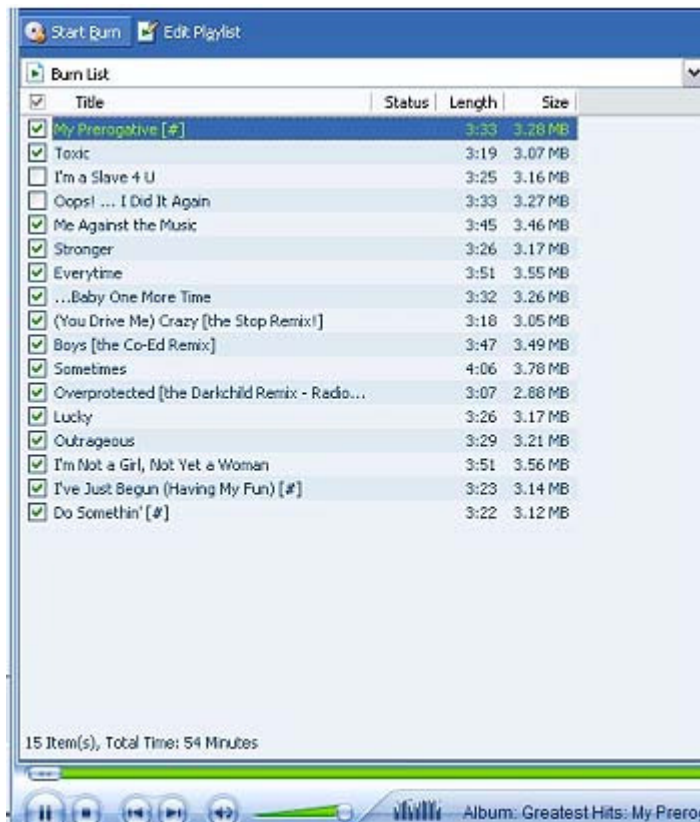
2. Under the **Library** tab, choose the album and/or songs you wish to copy onto the CD. A variety of songs can be selected. You can even make your own mixed CD through the use of this CD burner program. Cool, huh?!

3. For each song selected, highlight each (or all if it is an entire album in the same list) under the **Now Playing** list on the right hand column.

4. Then, right click and under "**Add to,**" click on "**Burn List**."

5. Once this process is complete, the status can be checked under the **Burn** tab. If there are too many songs that exceed the capacity of the disk, it will say "May Not Fit" next to the final one or more songs. If this happens, uncheck the songs you are satisfied with taking off and then continue the process.

Start Burn Edit Playlist

Burn List

☑	Title	Status	Length	Size
☑	My Prerogative [#]		3:33	3.28 MB
☑	Toxic		3:19	3.07 MB
☐	I'm a Slave 4 U		3:25	3.16 MB
☐	Oops! ... I Did It Again		3:33	3.27 MB
☑	Me Against the Music		3:45	3.46 MB
☑	Stronger		3:26	3.17 MB
☑	Everytime		3:51	3.55 MB
☑	...Baby One More Time		3:32	3.26 MB
☑	(You Drive Me) Crazy [the Stop Remix!]		3:18	3.05 MB
☑	Boys [the Co-Ed Remix]		3:47	3.49 MB
☑	Sometimes		4:06	3.78 MB
☑	Overprotected [the Darkchild Remix - Radio...		3:07	2.88 MB
☑	Lucky		3:26	3.17 MB
☑	Outrageous		3:29	3.21 MB
☑	I'm Not a Girl, Not Yet a Woman		3:51	3.56 MB
☑	I've Just Begun (Having My Fun) [#]		3:23	3.14 MB
☑	Do Somethin' [#]		3:22	3.12 MB

15 Item(s), Total Time: 54 Minutes

Album: Greatest Hits: My Prerog

6. When the selection of songs that will be copied onto the CD is complete, click on "**Start Burn,**" located in the top left corner.

Allow the Player to finish this process before continuing anything else on the program. The estimated burning time will read on the bottom of the page. After it's done converting the songs, they are finally copied and burned onto the CD! When all of this is complete, the computer will automatically eject the CD and you are set to listen to your favorite music!

Just for future reference, another way to choose the songs to burn onto the CD is to click on "**Edit Playlist**" under the **Burn** tab.

The songs that are checked will be burned and those left unchecked will be ignored during this process.
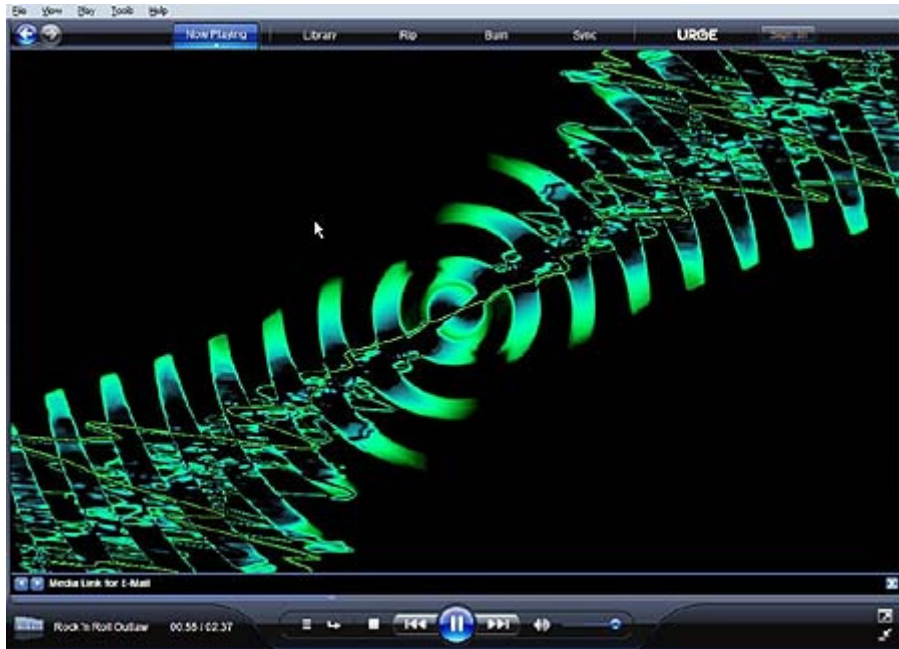
Happy CD making!

~ Sheida Rahimzadeh

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http://www.worldstart.com/referafriend.htm

Windows Media Player 11 Beta

It seems like only yesterday I was saying goodbye to Windows Media Player 9 (WMP 9) and now WMP 11 is out in beta. They grow up so fast, don't they? I know WMP takes a lot of heat compared to iTunes, Winamp and even MusicMatch as far as digital players go, but I have always liked WMP and I like this new version as well.

First of all, the new version has a small departure from some of the features in earlier versions of the player while adding other components to help make the player a major competitor in the media field. If you are familiar with WMP 10, you should find transitions to the new player easy and exciting.

From the main interface, you are bound to notice some major differences in the interface. It's cleaner and more efficient. Taking feedback from its customers has obviously paid off. Upon launching the player, you will also notice immediately the new music service, called Urge. It is integrated into the main interface as well. Microsoft has decided to make Urge, which is also MTV's music service, the default integrated music store in the new WMP, while saying goodbye to MSN Music.

There is no question that Microsoft hasn't been as successful in the realm of digital music as the wildly successful iTunes and this version of WMP validates this fact. For example, in addition to the change in the default music store, there has also been improvements in the way the WMP handles syncing removable devices, such as MP3 players. This should definitely come as a very welcomed addition. WMP will intuitively see your player and it will easily synchronize it in a number of different ways to suit your needs. Unlike iTunes, you can also easily transfer files from you MP3 player back to your WMP, which is an incredibly nice feature to have.

In addition to these improvements, here are some more things you can expect to see from the new Windows Media Player:

Stacking

With stacking, you can see graphically how many albums you have in a specific category of music. The more items you see in a stack (category), the larger the pile. Categories for stacks include genre, artist and album. Changing the interface from a long list of titles to a graphic representation not only makes the interface more pleasing to the eye, but also makes understanding, navigating and managing your music much easier.

WordWheel

Digital music collections are getting larger and larger. With a large collection, comes that first inevitable memory lapse. Believe it or not, there will come a time when you can't remember the name of an album, the artist or the name of the song you want to hear. So, Media Player 11 offers a way to instantly find exactly what you want.

Specifically, Windows Media Player 11 includes the Windows Vista WordWheel search functionality, incorporated right into the Media Player Library. All you have to do is type part of the artist's name, song title or genre (whatever you can remember). The Library will then "prune" through your entire collection with a query across relevant fields and it will offer up what it thinks you're looking for. Cool, huh?!

Back and Forward Buttons

The new Back and Forward buttons do just what you'd expect them to. They make using the player more Internet like and they offer a simple way to browse the interface. It's also easy to return to something you were doing, viewing or listening to earlier. This Internet feel seems quite natural and intuitive.

New CD Burning Features

How much space is left on the CD you plan to burn to and whether you have enough room for one more track has always been a guessing game. Worse is creating the ultimate playlist, only to find that it won't fit on the CD. With the new Burning Progress Bar in Media Player 11, that won't ever happen again. The bar is a graphic representation of how much space is left on the CD. The progress bar gets longer as songs are added to the playlist. When the bar reaches the end of the graphic, you'll know the disk is full.

If you have the ultimate playlist, but it won't fit on one CD, you can burn it to multiple CDs. With Multiple Disk CD Burning, you'll be notified that the music won't all fit and then prompted to put in another CD when the first one is full. Now that's what I call progress!

Global Status

No matter what the task, Windows Media Player 11 can tell you in an instant what's going on. With the Global Status feature, you can easily find out how buffering is coming, what song is currently being synched, how CD ripping is progressing and more. Finally, no more guessing!

Sync Status

Synching music to portable devices is an important part of any media application. The new synching features in Media Player 11 can play hardball with the best of them. Just plug in your device and click Start Sync. You'll see the songs to be synched listed, with a progress bar for each one. You'll always know how much more there is to go and what the current progress is. Plus, if any song can't be synched, the player gives you a reason for it.

Whew! That's a mouthful. So, what do you think? If this is something you would like to check out, let me remind you that the program is still in beta form, which means it's not 100 percent bug free yet. I would suggest making absolute sure all background running programs are disabled, especially any other media players installed on your system. You may also want to create a [restore point](#) in your XP system just in case you need an easy out. There are also a number of resources out at Microsoft's Web site that should help you if you so happen to run into any issues. Don't let that scare you though. I know a number of people that have downloaded the program and have had no ill effects.

Download the new beta version of Windows Media Player 11 [here](#).

Install and removal instructions are [here](#).