

Windows CD formats

ISO 9660 Format

The most common international standard for the logical format for files and directories on a CD-ROM.

ISO 9660 Interchange Levels

Methods of recording and naming files on disc under the ISO 9660 standard. There are three nested, downward-compatible Levels.

In Level 1 (the lowest common denominator, developed with DOS file naming limitations in mind):

- ? Each file must be written on disc as a single, continuous stream of bytes -- files may not be fragmented or interleaved.
- ? A filename may not contain more than eight d-characters. Capital A to Z, digits 0 to 9, and the underscore symbol (_).
- ? A Filename Extension may not contain more than three d-characters.
- ? A directory name may not contain more than eight d-characters.

In Level 2, again, each file must be written on disc as a single, continuous stream of bytes, but there are no restrictions on filenames.

In Level 3, there are no restrictions. This allows for writing files in multiple extents. The StorPoint has support for ISO9660 Level 3 from software version 4.25.

In the StorPoint volume labels with other than A-Z and _ is not read and is converted to a CD_XXXXX name

ISO 9660 Romeo

A file naming option in which allows you to write files to disc with names up to 128 characters long, including spaces. This is not part of the Joliet standard, the Unicode character set is not supported, and there is no provision for associated DOS filenames. If read under DOS or Windows 3.1, file and directory names will appear truncated to 8+3. Romeo filenames can be read on Windows 95 and NT 3.51 systems. Romeo discs can be read on Macintosh systems if the filenames are shorter than 31 characters.

The StorPoint has support for Romeo from software version 4.0

Joliet

Joliet is an extension of the ISO 9660 standard, developed by Microsoft for Windows 95, to allow CDs to be recorded using long filenames (it also allows for using the Unicode international character set). For files recorded to CD, Joliet allows you to use filenames up to 64 characters in length, including spaces.

Versions of Windows NT up to 3.51 build 1057 do NOT read the long filenames on Joliet discs. NT 4.0 does support Joliet.

The StorPoint has support for Joliet from software version 4.12

UDF

UDF (Universal Disk Format) is a new file system, with support for the current generation of CDs such as CD-RW, and DVD-ROM.

Standard CD-ROMs are usually formatted using ISO 9660. Most computer systems can read ISO 9660 CD-ROM and CD-R discs because they have built-in ISO 9660 Readers. However, ISO 9660 has certain limitations which make it inappropriate for DVD, CD-RW and other new disc formats. UDF is designed to address these limitations. Specifically, UDF allows files to be added to a CD-R or CD-RW disc incrementally, one file at a time, without significant wasted overhead, using a technique called *packet writing. Also, UDF allows for the random erase of individual files on CD-RW media, freeing up space in the process. ISO 9660 can't handle this. UDF is also better suited for DVD, because it has better support for large-capacity discs.

* The StorPoint has support for packet written CD:s with the UDF 1.5 format from software version 4.25 provided that an ISO9660 header are written to the CD before it's ejected from the CD-Recorder.

Always use the latest StorPoint software to ensure compability with new filesystems.