

NTI CD Maker Professional Edition 5.1.9

Review By Rob Champion

Product Information:

CD Maker Pro is made by NTI New Tech Infosystems Inc. Tustin California.
CD Pro can be purchased from their site www.NTIUS.Com for \$50.00.
Buy.Com has a copy for \$39.22. Finding it for \$39 I searched no more.

Introduction:

NTI CD Maker Pro is CD mastering software for CD-R and CD-RW devices.
An extensive list of supported drives is on their web site. It is advisable to check the web site first to see if the software recognizes your drive. Supported types of recording are as follows; Track at Once, Disk at once & Session at Once. CD Maker Pro will record data, video, and audio and real time audio.

Requirements:

A windows environment from 95 to XP.
A PC with a 486/33 processor or better.
32 MB of ram
20 MB of hard drive space.
A drive that is supported by the software.

Installation:

I installed on a 400 MHz machine with 327 Meg of ram.
Install went on very easy, software recognized my Ple xtor 16-10-40 without any problems.
A reboot insured me that the install was complete.

Features:

CD Copy- Copies data from CD to CD or from the hard disk if only one CD drive is available.
Data CD - Copies the data from the hard drive in standard format, readable by many CD readers
Audio CD- Creates a music CD from Wave or mp3 files
Video CD- Creates a video CD from an Avi file or from an Mpeg file
Mixed Mode- Records the data first then records the audio secondly
CD Extra -Records the audio first then records the data
Custom CD - Creates a CD from an Image file
Live Audio -Allows the user to create a CD in real time using the input in the sound card
Session Explorer - Displays the files on the CD
Jewel Case Creator - Make your own label for your custom CD creations

Documentation:

The Help file is one of the most comprehensive chunks of literature ever put together in a CD-burning program, and the feature set contained within the software is truly second to none! The help within each of the options is clear and concise.

There are four writing methods in the advanced settings of the Write CD dialog box. They are Smart decision, Track-At-Once, Session-At-Once and Disc-At-Once. Going to the help file explains these particular functions

Product Support:

I did need some help here. I was unable to find the click, pop, hiss feature (noise clean-up unwanted sound) as advertised on the package. Software help showed nothing, web page came up empty, an eight Meg update rendered nothing. I e-mailed tech support on Friday and on Wednesday I had an answer. For those of you that have this program the hiss pop feature is available only on wave files.

CD Creation:

Without a doubt, I found NTI CD Maker Pro is one of the easiest programs to use to do a complex operation. Simply choose the project that you want to do, and in two steps you are on your way to making a CD that you can enjoy.

I experimented a little with the program, because I have an extra CD drive on my system, I placed a music CD in the spare drive. I was able to copy the cda track from the music CD, and take the mp3 from the hard drive. I did find a player that was included in the program; this allowed me to preview the song to make sure it was the one I wanted. Incorporated in the software is the ability to convert into different formats, i.e., CD-a, WAV, MP3 or WMA.

What the program does not do:

No mislead here, with a little bit of ingenuity this will do what the other ones will do. No need to have a ripper either.

I saw no need to have a "backup" feature, data is data and the software will copy anything off the HDD to a CD.

Summary:

Overall I like the program; I do not want to obtain a degree in CD mastery. I just want to be able to make a little music, and save some of my good programs that I have spent time downloading. The program is user friendly and help is well defined. I think it is a good piece of software that satisfies the beginner, the "geek" or even the more sophisticated professional. Anyone wanting to make his or her own CD's should give this a go.

Good Product!