

What do you do with an [ISO file](#) once you've downloaded it? An ISO file is an image of a CD or DVD so to use it, you first need to burn it to a CD or DVD.

Prefer screen shots? Try my [Step by Step Guide to Burning an ISO File](#) for an easy walk-through!

Burning the ISO image file to a CD or DVD is a bit different than just burning the file. You'll need to choose the "burn image" or "write image" option in your burning software and then choose the file.

If your CD/DVD burning software does not have this option or you want something more simple, try following the steps below to burn an ISO image file to a CD or DVD.

Difficulty: Easy **Time Required:** Burning an ISO image file to a CD or DVD usually takes less than 15 minutes

Here's How:

1.

[Download Free Easy CD DVD Burner](#) and follow the on-screen directions to install the software.

Note: Free Easy CD DVD Burner is completely free and fully functional. However, there are some accompanying programs that it asks you to install - feel free to decline those if you're not interested. Currently, Free Easy CD DVD Burner supports Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows 2003 and Windows Vista.

2.

Insert a blank CD or DVD in your drive.

3.

Open the Free Easy CD DVD Burner program.

4.

Click on the **Copy CD/DVD** button on the tool bar at the top of the program window.

5.

Under the *Action* menu on the left, click the **Burn an image file** link.

6.

When the *Select the image file that you want to burn* window opens, locate and select the ISO file you wish to burn to the empty disc and then click

Open

7.

A dialog box will appear asking "*Do you want to burn [your chosen ISO file]?*".

Click **OK** to confirm.

The burning process will automatically begin. The time it takes to burn will depend on the size of the ISO file and the speed of both your PC and your CD or DVD burner.

8.

When the burning is complete, the CD or DVD will automatically eject from the drive. You can remove the disc and close Free Easy CD DVD Burner.

9.

If you view the contents of the disc, you might notice many files and folders. So what happened to the ISO file? Remember that the ISO file is just an image of what should be on the CD or DVD. That ISO file contained the information for all of the files you see on the disc.

Tips:

1. You must have a CD or DVD burner to write ISO files to CDs or DVDs. You will not be able to burn ISO files if you only have a standard CD or DVD drive.
2. Many ISO files, like some [memory testing programs](#) and [password recovery tools](#) , are intended to be [booted](#) from after they are burned.

If you're not sure how to do that, check out my [How To Boot your Computer from a Bootable CD or DVD](#) guide for more information.