How to copy CD or DVD on GNU/Linux and FreeBSD using console or terminal

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These days more and more people start to forget the g* / Linux old times when we used to copy CDs from console using **dd** in conjunction with **mkisofs** .

Therefore to bring some good memories back of the glorious console times I decided to come up with this little post.

To copy a CD or DVD the first thing one should do is to make an image copy of the present inserted CD into the CD-drive with **dd** :

1. Make copy of the CD/DVD image using *dd*

dd if=/dev/cdrom of=/tmp/mycd.iso bs=2048 conv=notrunc

/dev/cdrom is the location of the cdrom device, on many Linuces including (Debian) */dev/cdrom* is just a link to the /dev/ which corresponds to the CD drive. Note on FreeBSD the location for the CD Drive is **/dev/acd0**
/tmp/mycd.iso instructs dd CD image creation to be placed in */tmp/* directory.
bs argument instructs it about the **byte size** portions by which the content of the CD-Drive inserted CD will be read. *bs* value of **2048** is actually only 2KB per dd read, increasing this value will decrease the time required for the CD image to be extracted.

2. Prepare CD image file to be ready for burning

After **dd** completes the image copy operation, next to prepare the extracted **image / ISO** to be ready for burning *mkisofs* is used:

mkisofs -J -L -r -V TITLE -o /tmp/imagefile.iso /tmp/mycd.iso

The *-J* option makes the CD compatible for Pcs running Microsoft Windows. The *-V TITLE* option should be changed to whatever title the new CD should have, *-r* will add up status bar for the mkisofs operation.
 -r is passed to create specific file permissions on the newly created CD, *-o* specifies the location where **mkisofs** will produce its file based on the CD image */tmp/mycd.iso* .

3. Burning the mkisofs image file to a CD/DVD on GNU / Linux

linux:~# cdrecord -scanbus
linux:~# cdrecord dev=1,0,0 /tmp/imagefile.iso

If all wents okay with **cdrecord** operation, after a while the CD should be ready.

4. Burning the mkisofs image file to CD on FreeBSD

freebsd# burncd -f /dev/acd0 data /tmp/imagefile.iso fixate