philips cd-i backup guide

English version 3.0

Table of Content

1. Introduction

1.1 Needed Tools

1.1.1 CDRWin
1.1.2 IsoBuster
1.1.3 DiscJuggler
1.1.4 CloneCD

2. Extract Image

2.1 CDRWin
2.2 IsoBuster (alternative)

3. Burn Image

3.1 DiscJuggler
3.2 Nero Burning Rom

4. Extract and Burn CD-i Ready

4.1 Extract CD-i Ready
4.2 Burn CD-i Ready

5. What's New?

5.1 Version 1.0
5.2 Version 2.0
5.3 Version 3.0

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1. Introduction

CD-i software and hardware isn't copy-protected. All CD-i titles can be copied and are playable on any CD-i player worldwide. It's possible that you might have some troubles using backups on "low cost" console styled Players (4xx series).
Always use CD-R and always burn at the lowest speed as possible, x4 is the recommended. CD+R aren't compatible with most of CD-i players.

Note: CD-i titles are still copyrighted. Infogrames Multimedia France, parent company of Atari Group, acquired entire consumer CD-i catalogue back in 1998.

CAUTION: This guide is for personal backup purposes to prevent your originals from scratches and other damages. It's getting increasingly harder to replace CD-i software.

1.1 Needed Tools

All softwares used to create your backups are free under freeware or shareware licenses.

1.1.1 CDRWin

CDRWin is a burning tool that creates images in bin/cue format. This kind of image is still the most popular.
https://cdrwin.soft112.com
Note: Download and install ASPI drivers as well.

1.1.2 IsoBuster

IsoBuster is a CD and DVD data recovery tool. Use it alternatively to extract your CD-i Images. You'll be able to extract mpeg and audio files as well.
https://www.isobuster.com/download.php

Note: IsoBuster extracts a bin file only and won't create a cuesheet. A cuesheet is a short text file specifying the contents, order, and spacing of the extracted CD. Most burning tools incl. BlindWrite, CDRWin, EAC, Feurio!, FireBurner, Nero Burning Rom, Roxio Easy CD Creator (Disc Copier 6.1 or later) need the cuesheet.

1.1.3 DiscJuggler

DiscJuggler is a powerful Burning Tool that supports many different Image types like bin, cdi, cmi, cue, iso, nrg.
https://legacy.padus.com/downloads/demo.php

1.1.4 CloneCD

Use CloneCD to create Backups of CD-i Titles in CD-i Ready (Enhanced CD) format. Less than 5% are in that format. Known ones are:

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- A Christmas Songbook
- Accelerator
- 2 Unlimited - Beyond Limits
- CD-i Ready Steady Go!
- Denkend aan de Dapperstraat
- Escape
- Het Land van Ooit
- Het Nationale Muziekkado van 1995
- James Brown
- Louis Armstrong
- Lucky Luke
- More Dark Fables of Aesop
- Mozart
- Opera Imaginaire
- Pavarotti - O Sole Mio
- Prelude
- Rembrandt
- Rosebud – The Director's Cut
- Secrets Of Tatjana
- Steel Machine
- Tangerine Dream - Tyranny Of Beauty
- Tatjana's Double Deal
- The Apprentice
- The Classics you Love
- The Dark Fables of Aesop
- The Worlds of…
- Uncover Featuring Tatjana
- Zaneca – Quaeritur III

A CD-i Ready disc is easily recognizable, you just need to insert it in your CD-i player, on the main screen player menu a new icon will appear on the bottom left corner named "Play Audio".

On this special type of CD-i the CD-i Data Track was stored in pause sectors preceding Track 1. That way it's possible to play a CD-i (containing both audio and data) either in a CD Audio or a CD-i Player. In fact that most Burning Tools investigate the content of a CD by using the TOC (Table of Contents), they won't recognize the hidden Data Track. Get a Trial Version at https://www.redfox.bz/fr/clonecd.html

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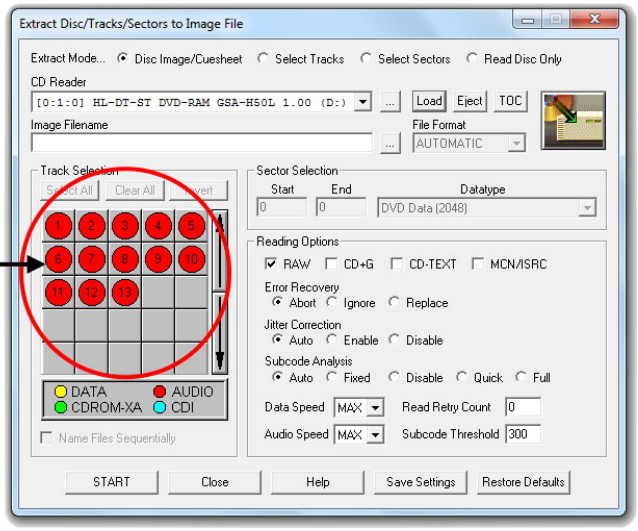
2. Extract Image

2.1 CDRWin

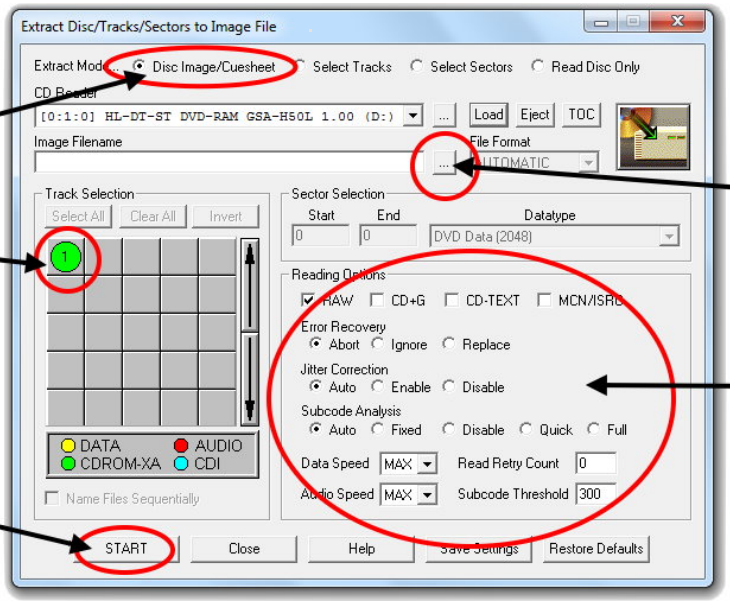
Insert a CD-i into CD drive and start CDRWin.

Extract un Disce/Tracks/Sectors



In red, only audio tracks are recognized, this is a CD-i Ready format. Use CloneCD at chapiter 4 to create your backup.

Usual CD-i filesystem



Select extract mode.

Recognized data tracks.

Start

Select destination and name of the Image.

Use default settings.

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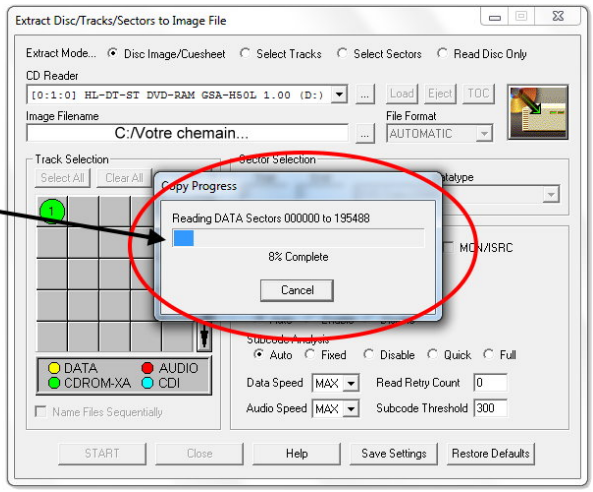
Extracting disc

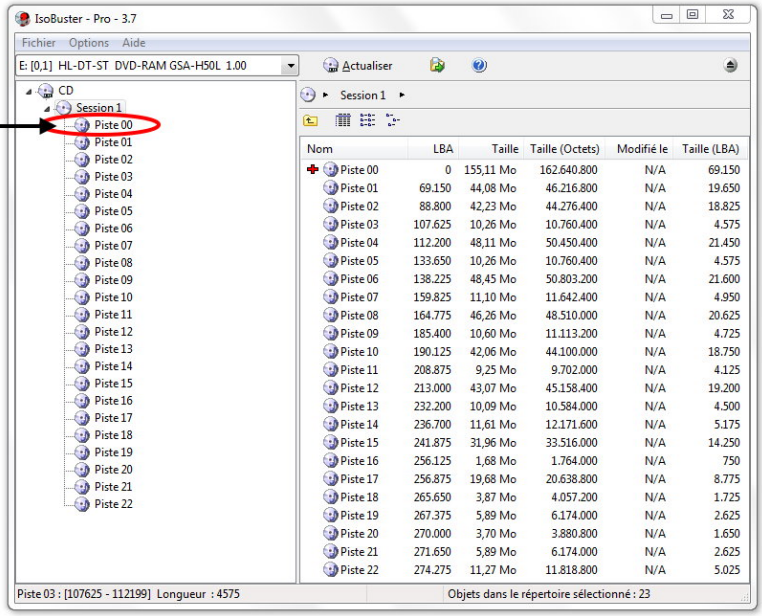


2.2 IsoBuster

Use IsoBuster alternatively to extract a CD-i Image.

Insert a CD-i into CD drive and start IsoBuster.

Track00 indicates hidden data tracks in Pregrap. This is a CD-i Ready format. Use CloneCD at chapiter 4 to create your backup.



Usual CD-i filesystem

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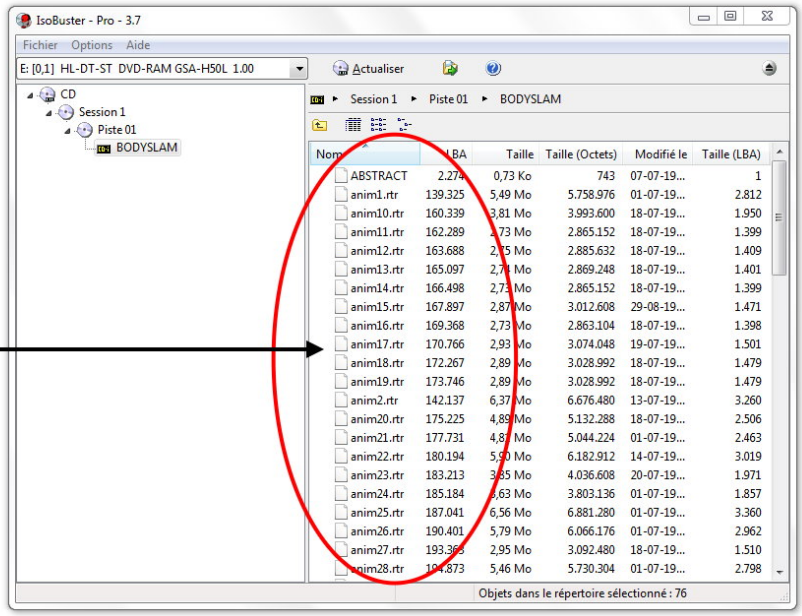
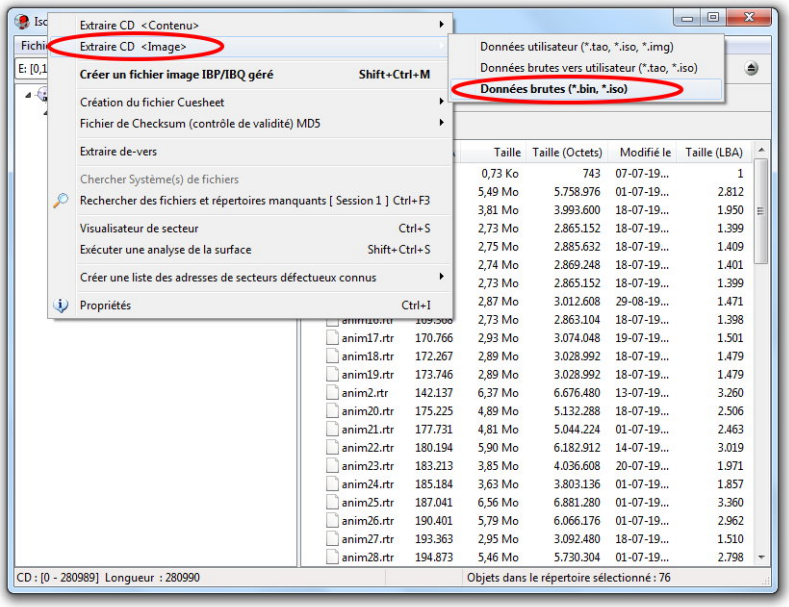
Usual CD-i file system whithout audio tracks.



↓

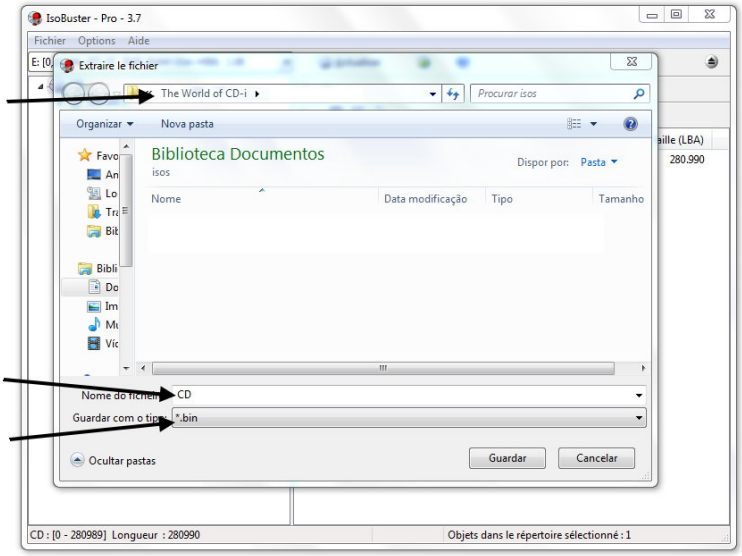
Place the mouse over "CD" on the the vertical on left. Click on right mousse' button, choose "Extract CD" then choose "RAW *.bin *.iso".



Select destination

Give a name to the file

Choose .bin format



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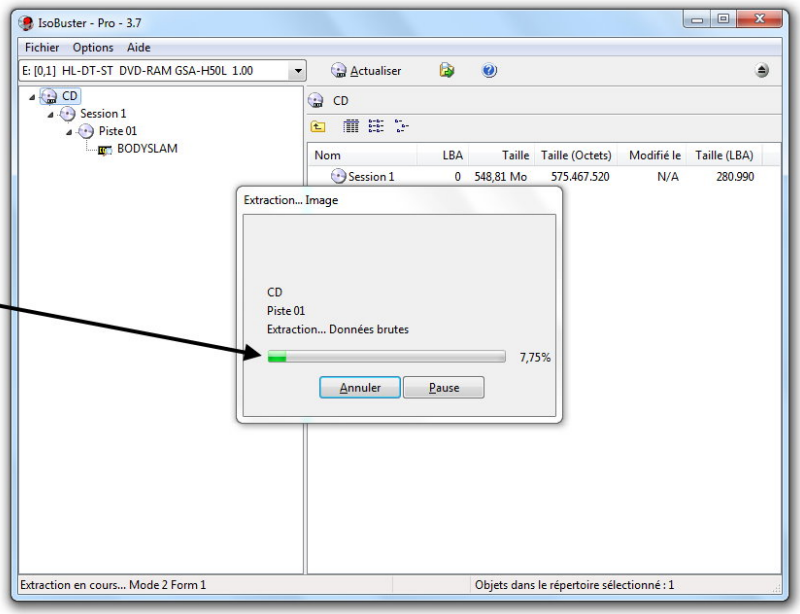
Extracting Image



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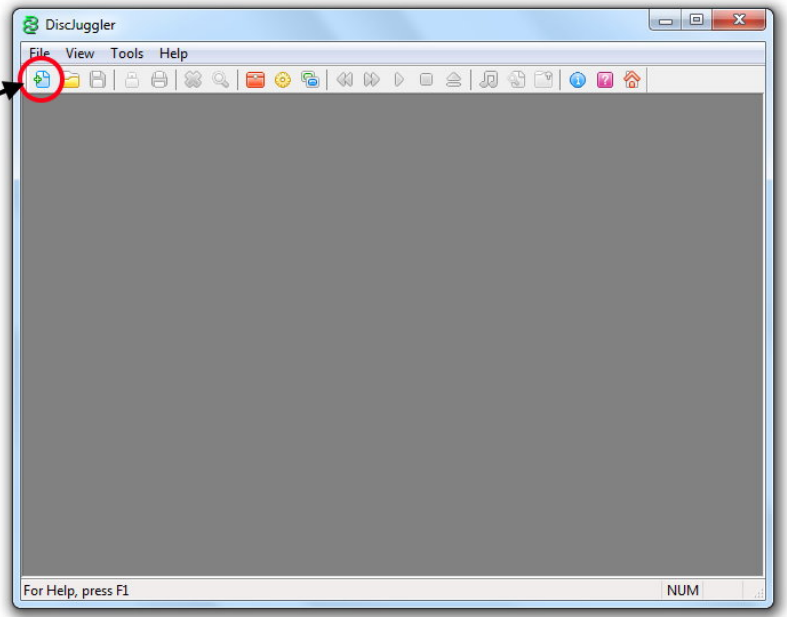
3. Burn Image

You have to create the missing cue file by yourself if you are using IsoBuster to extract Image and your burning tool aren't able to handle bin only.
Use DiscJuggler, which is able to burn bin only, before wasting time on Cuesheet editing.

3.1 DiscJuggler

Input CD-R into your CD-Burner and start DiscJuggler.

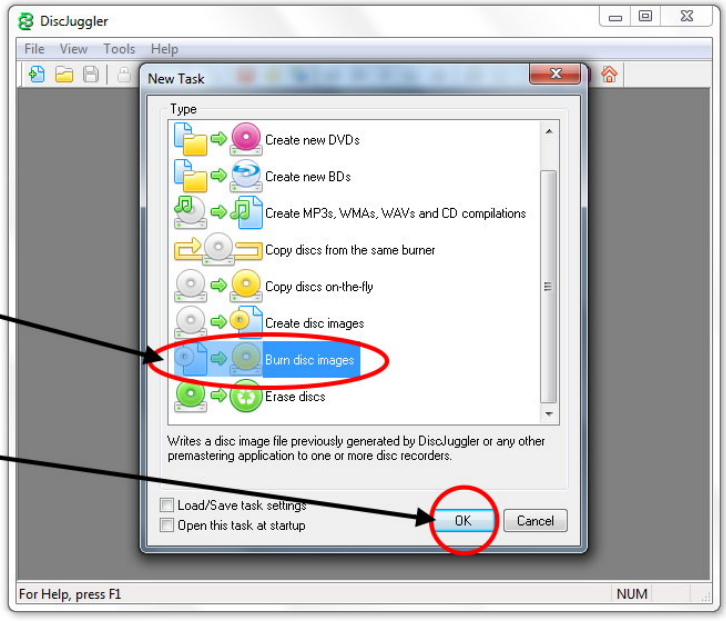
Select a new task



↓

Select "Burn disc images"

Confirm



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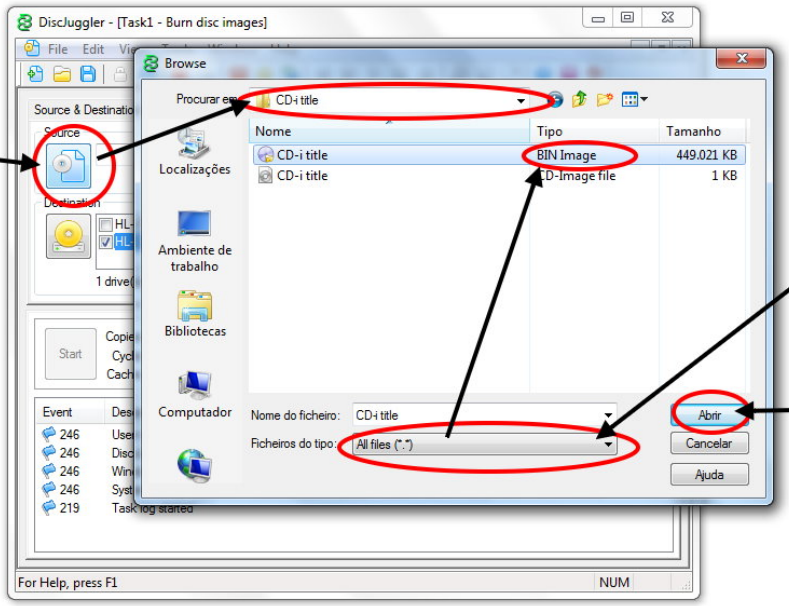
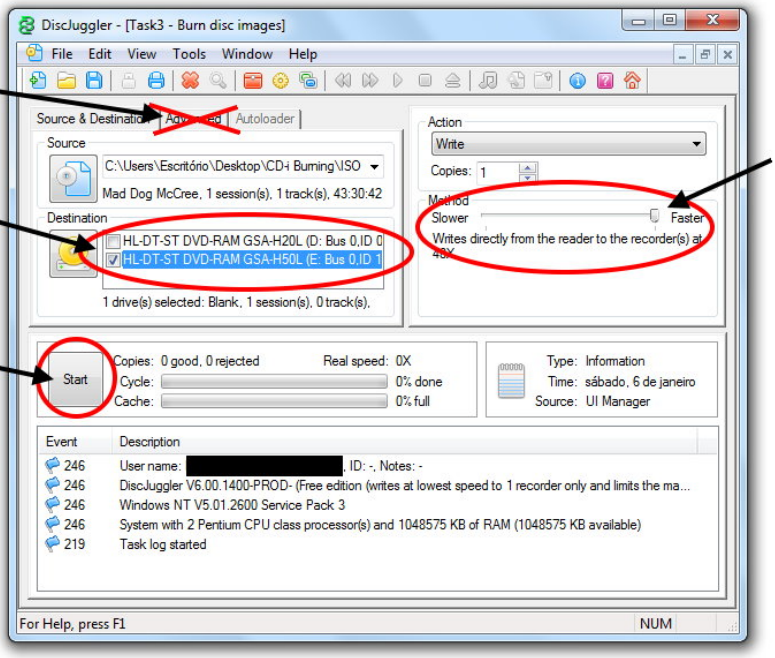


Select source of Image file.

Search all files, otherwise .bin files won't show up.

Open

↓



Do not change advanced settings.

Choose your burning drive.

Start

Set writing speed

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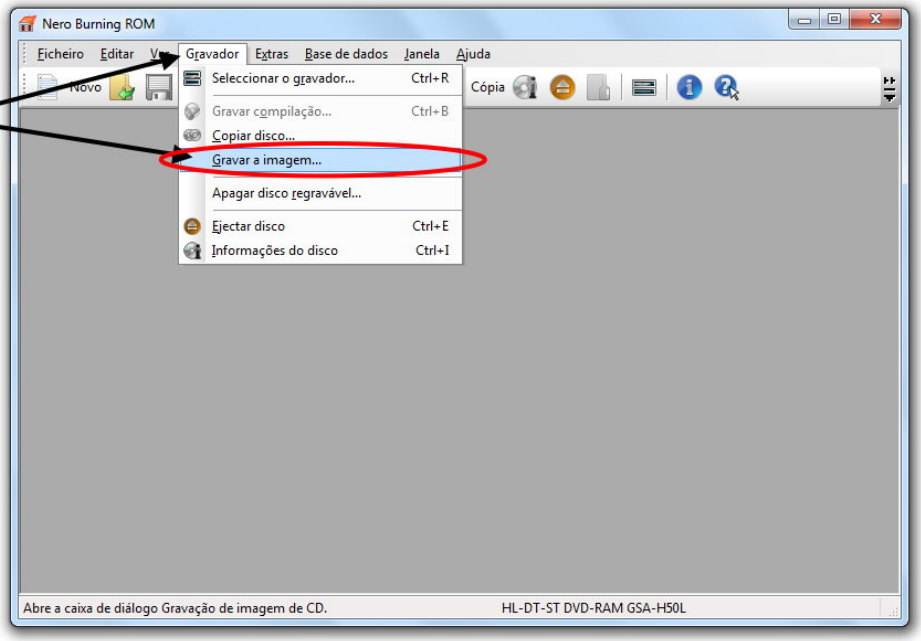
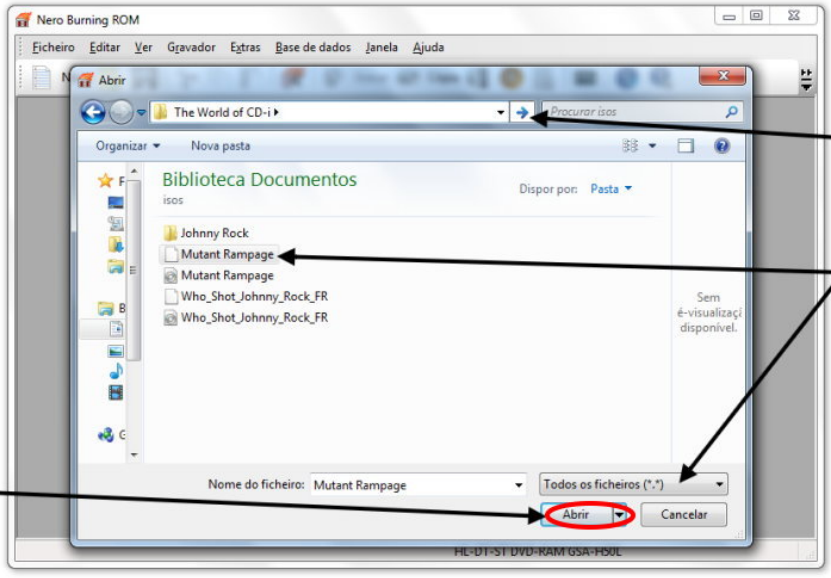
3.2 Nero Burning Rom

Input CD-R into CD-Burner and start Nero Burning Rom

Select Burner and Burn Image.



↓



Select source of Image file.

Search all files, otherwise .bin files won't show up.

Open

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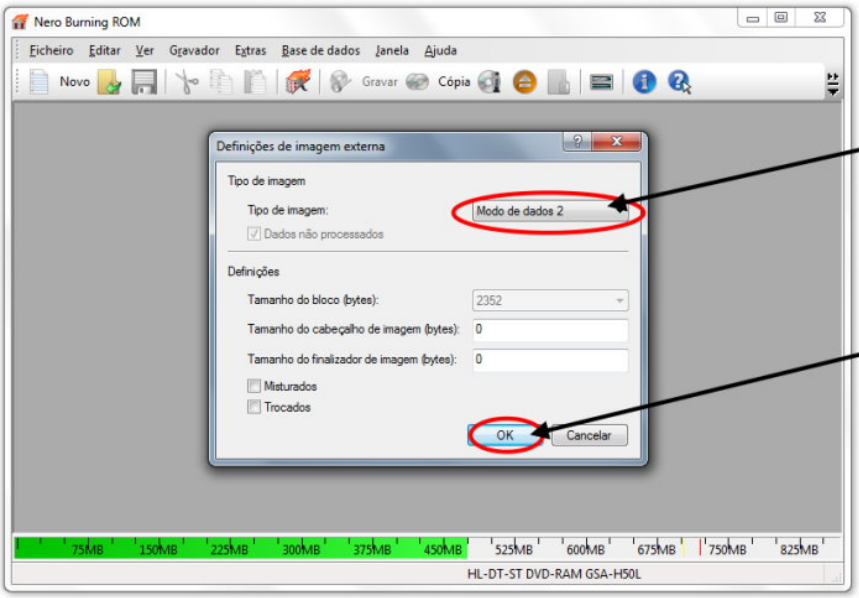
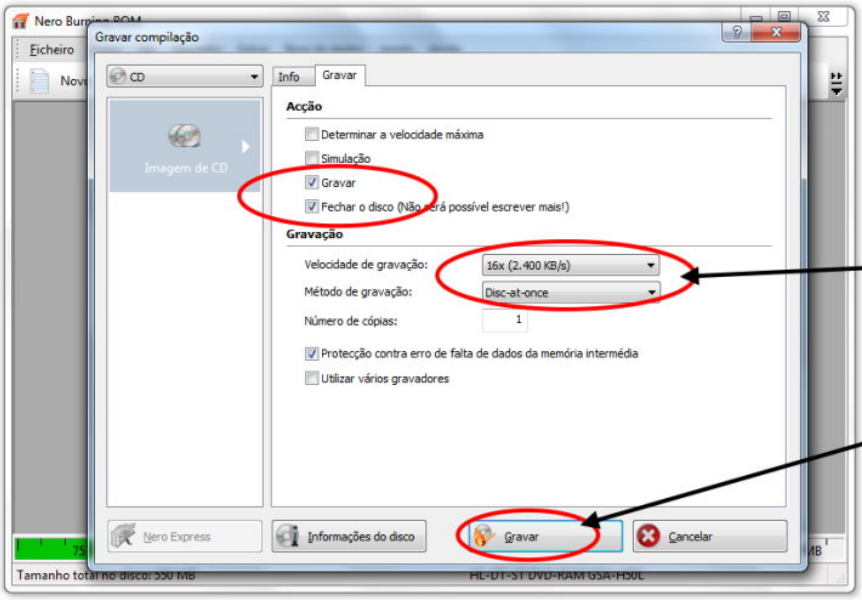


Choose Mode 2

Confirm

↓



Choose the lowest speed as possible.

Burn

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4. Extract and Burn CD-i Ready

4.1 Extract CD-I Ready

Insert CD-I into CD drive and start CloneCD.

Choose read Image file

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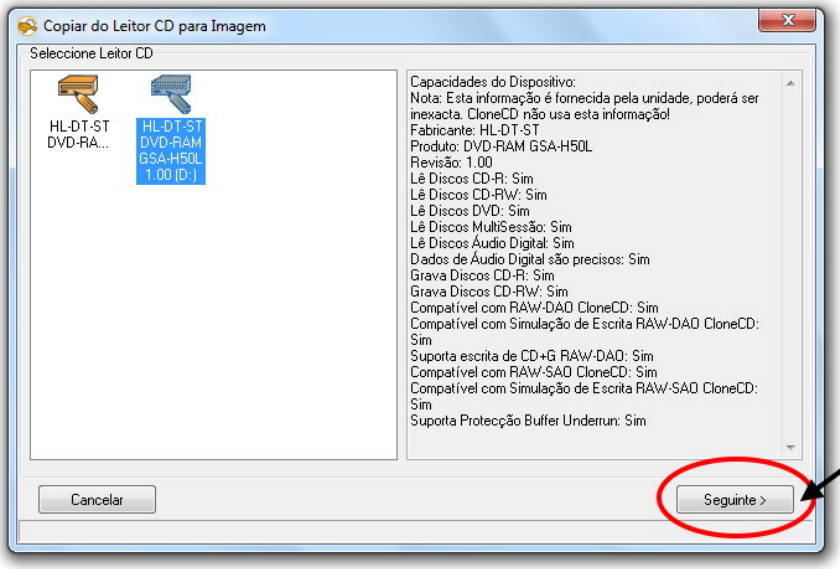
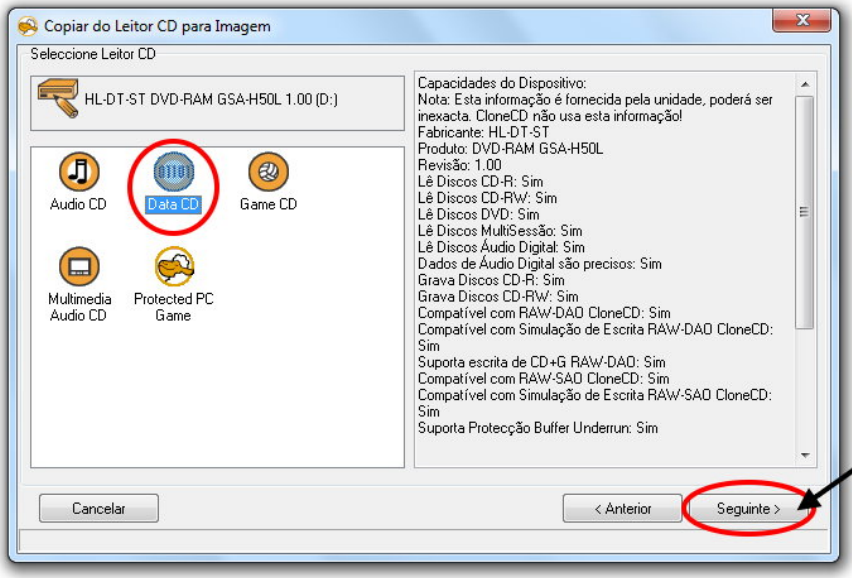


Select your burning room and place a CD-R, then confirm.

↓



Next

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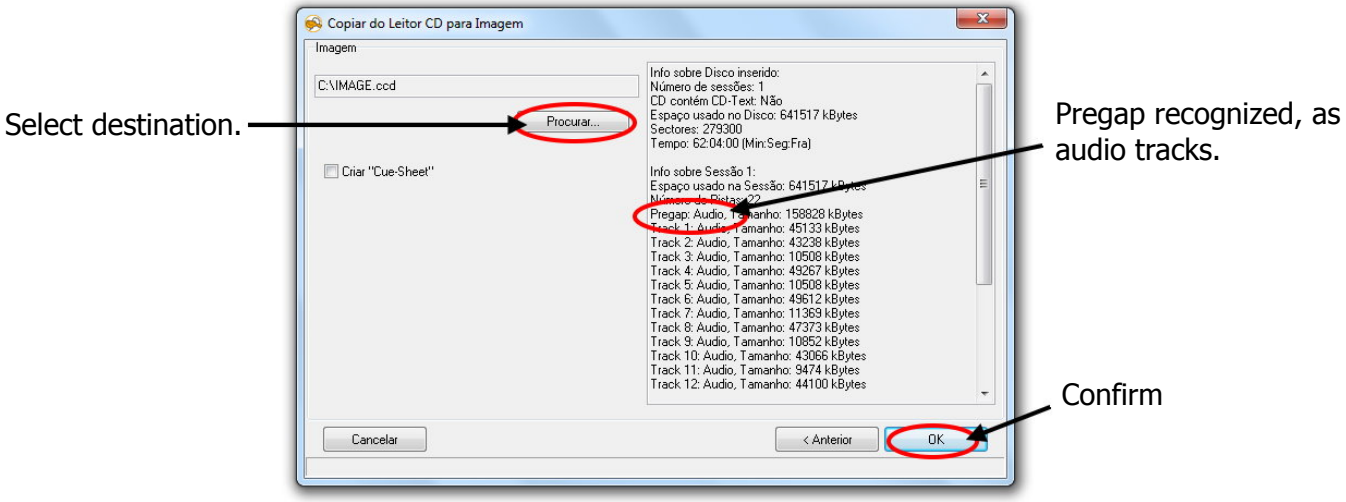

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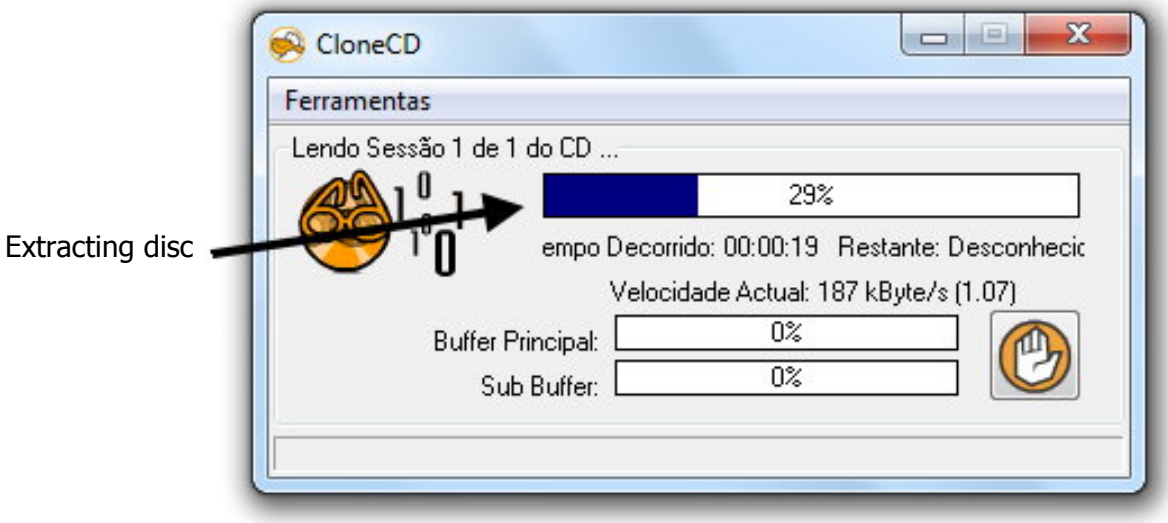
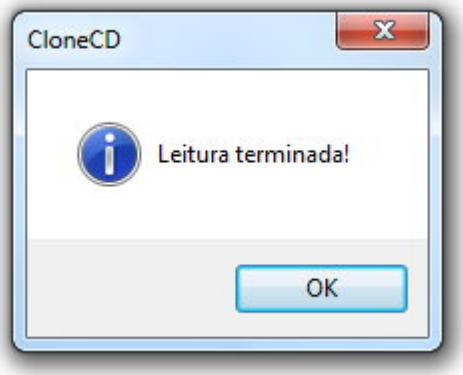


↓



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4.2 Burn CD-I Ready

Insert CD-R into CD-Burner and start CloneCD.

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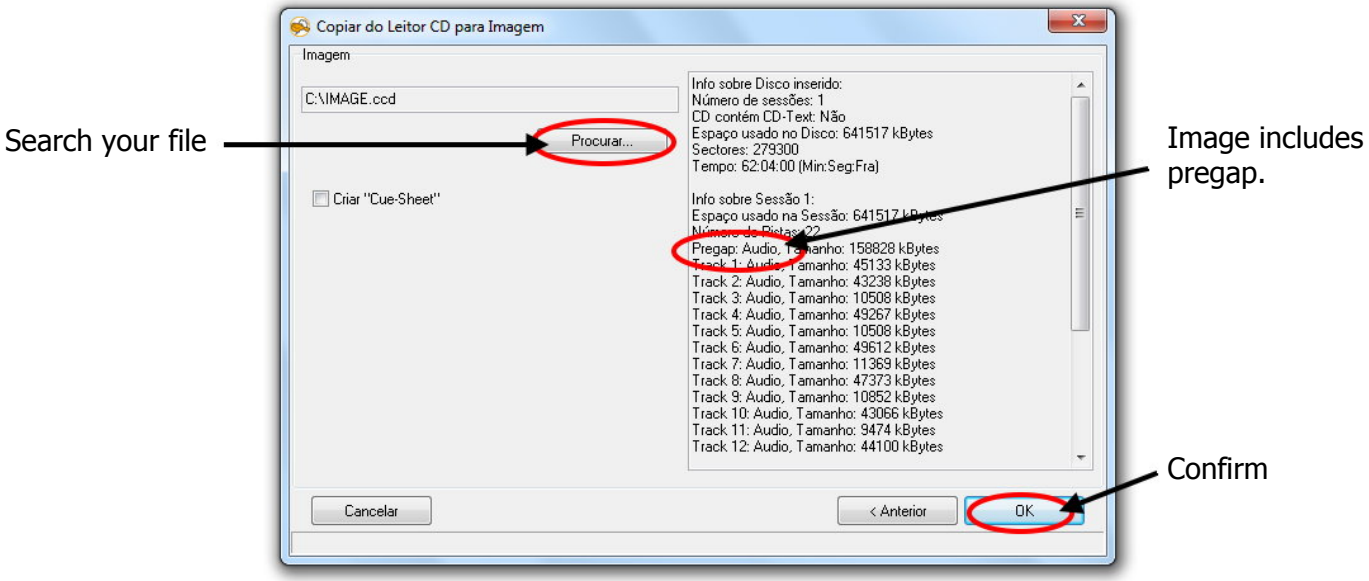

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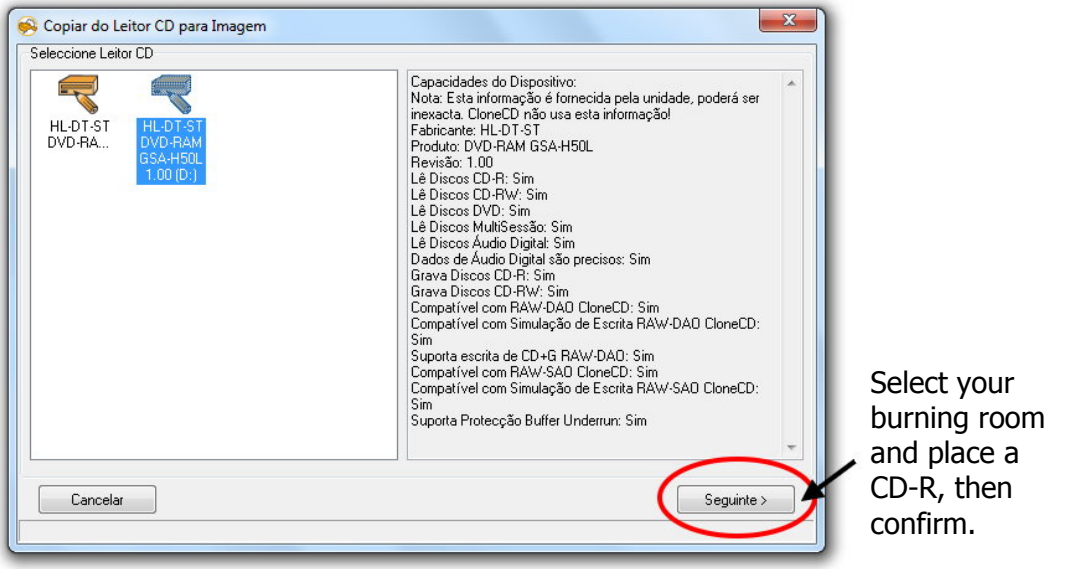

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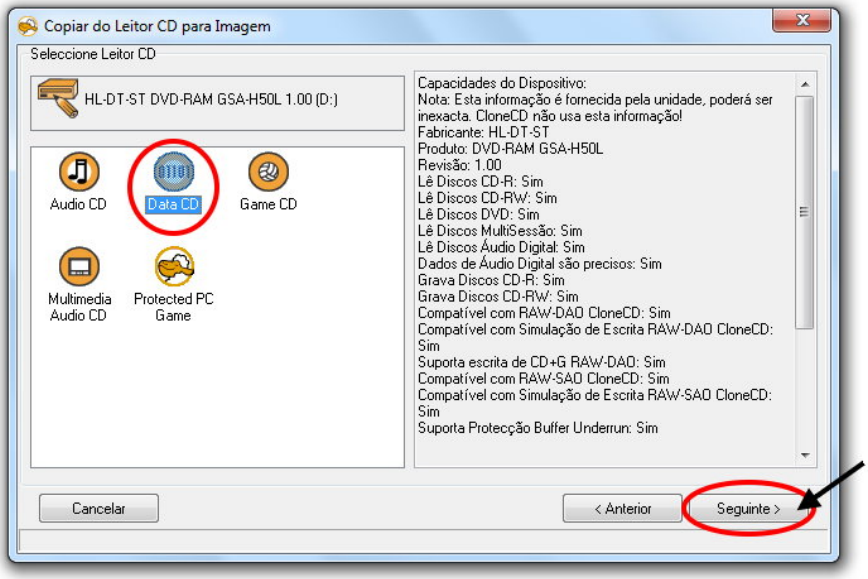
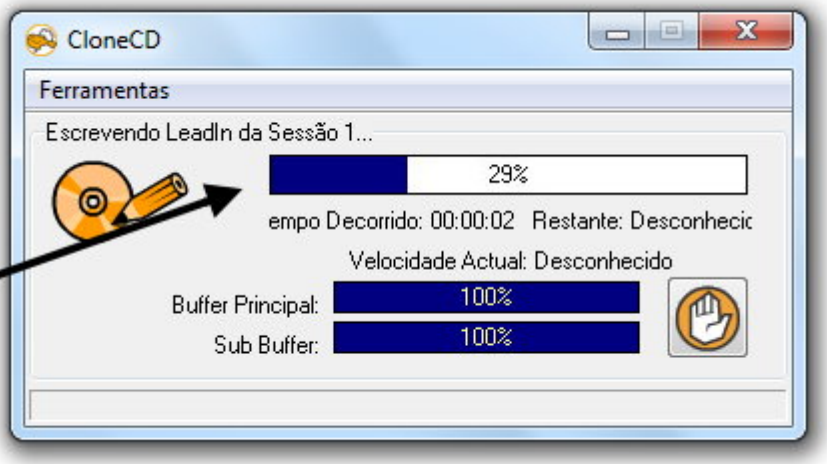


Next

↓



Writing disc

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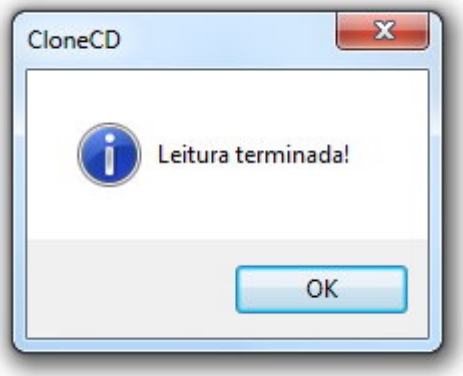

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5. Whats' New?

5.1 Version 1.0

2004
- First version created by Blurb69.

5.2 Version 2.0

2007
- Updated new website logo.
- Removed "CD-i Fanclub Nederland" website logo.
(This website became part of "The World of CD-i" with Terratron as team member)
Revision by Omegalfa.

5.3 Version 3.0

2019
- Updated new website logo.
- Updated website links.
- Updated all freeware and shareware download links.
- Updated all tests under windows 7 with new screenshots.
- Added What's new.
- Translation of the Guide to French.
(Please visit www.theworldofcdi.com to download French version)
Revision and translation by Omegalfa.