

Lancaster Senior Citizen Center

Computer Tip No. 04

DVD Formats

There are 4 variations of DVD Burners. DVD +, DVD-, DVD-Ram, and DVD-Rom. Which is used depends on which standard the equipment manufacturers use, and support. They are similar to CD-R and CD-RW formats, but can contain larger amounts of data

Some programs that enable DVDs recorded with pictures or slide shows to be shown on TV, may recognize only one of the + or – standards. Some may recognize both. It pays to check.

DVD+R & DVD+RW are formats that are supported by Dell, Hp, Sony and Philips and others.

DVD+R: The same data can only be record once, and becomes permanent. To save the same data, updated, it must be saved under a different name. Ex. Shop.jpg -> Shop01.jpg.
Both files will be seen on the disk.

DVD+RW: Can be erased and recorded many times, just like a floppy

DVDs created with the +R and +RW format, can be read by DVD-Rom players

DVD-R and DVD-RW are formats that are supported by Hitachi, Sharp, Toshiba, NEC, Samsung and others. These formats are recognized and supported by the DVD Forum.

DVD-R: The same data can only be record once, and becomes permanent. To save the same data, updated, it must be saved under a different name. Ex. Shop.jpg -> Shop01.jpg.
Both files will be seen on the disk.

DVD-RW: Can be erased and recorded many times, just like a floppy

DVDs created with the -R and -RW format, can be read by DVD-Rom players

DVD-Ram disks can be recorded and erased, but are only compatible with devices manufactured by companies that support that format. They are usually packaged in cartridges

DVD-ROM: It is a read only format and will run on any DVD-Rom player. It was the first DVD standard to come out.