

## Re: DVD R/RW+- Drive not recognized by some software

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- *From:* SteelWheel <[SteelWheel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:SteelWheel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 2 Nov 2007 11:58:01 -0700
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First off TYVM for your response.

I may not have been clear in my initial post, but I am using DVD RW+ discs, not DVD RW- discs. Also, the software I mentioned from Iomega doesn't recognize that the DRIVE is there, not that there is no disc, or an improperly formatted disc. The programs don't get that far. When I try and open Hot Burn Pro I get the error message stating there are no RW capable drives on my computer. That is very different from a disc issue. Also, I have used both programs successfully in the past, so this is some kind of problem that has developed, not one of a software incompatibility issue.

While the DVD Recorder I have, the LG DR1F9H, will take a RW disc and initialize it into VR+ mode, it requires a low level formatting first. It will not recognize a blank DVD RW+ disc. Unfortunately the only utilities I have that currently recognize my drive change the book type to DVD-ROM during format and the recorder won't recognize the discs at all. I used Hot Burn Pro to perform the initial format, or the format found on the right-click of the drive (which I mentioned before is now missing). If you know of any utilities that do formatting and allow control of the book type, please let me know. Also I am still confused as to why the DRIVE isn't being recognized by certain software anymore.

Thx again.

"M.I.5¾" wrote:

"SteelWheel" <[SteelWheel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:SteelWheel@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message <news:497EF85E-2B9E-42D4-9285-03FB3C701C09@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

This is a rather odd problem that has developed...some software that has always recognized my DVD R/RW+- drive now does not, while some other software still does. In addition some aspects of Window XP SP2 recognizes the drive, but other functions cannot now be performed.

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Specifically, on the Windows side, the Device Manager says it is working properly (Microsoft Drive ver 5.1.2535.0 dated 07/01/2001, and when searched for, no "better" driver found) and when I open Explore I can see the drive, the contents of a disc on the drive, and open files from it. However, if I right-click on the drive in My Computer when I have a blank DVD+RW disc in it, the format option has disappeared from the options. This is important to me b/c I need to format new blank media for my DVD Player/Recorder and it will not recognize an unformatted disc. The XP format function also does not change the book type, which every other format option I have found does. Also, if I try to format a disc from a command prompt window, I get an "Invalid Drive Specification" error.

On the Program side, Roxio DVD Info Pro recognizes the drive, can read a disc and can format it (it changes the book type to DVD-ROM). Also, Sonic Record Now can write to the disc and the write is good. However two programs that used to be able to see the drive now can't: Iomega Hotburn Pro and Iomega Automatic Backup Pro. It may not be a coincidence that they are both programs from the same company, but I am not sure what it means.

Windows XP does not support formatting of DVD-RW disks, or indeed writing of such disks. Also the majority of third party DVD writing utilities do not require the disk to be formatted before being able to write to it. There are only 2 scenarios where the disk requires to be formatted before use. The first is where the disk is being used in a 'packet incremental format' writing mode. Generally, these utilities add a 'format' option to the right click menu for the drive. The second is where the disk is being used in a video recorder in 'VR' mode (though many recorders will also perform a basic format for 'Video' mode recording).

I am not familiar with the Iomega products that you mention but their blurb refers to drag and drop functionality which suggests that they operate in packet incremental format. If this is the case then the disk must be formatted before these utilities will recognise the disk. Formatting should always be carried out using the format option in the utility of your choice because there have been several versions of formats which not every utility fully supports (and indeed every DVD drive). If the disk is in an unrecognised format then the utility generally won't see it, and sometimes won't even allow you to reformat it.

The same is true of formatting for VR mode (in a video recorder). All VR

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disks are not created equal. In general DVD+VR seems to be more universal than DVD-VR.