MediaEraser 1.0 ReadMe

About This Software

Thanks for trying MediaEraser.

MediaEraser is a "quick and dirty" tool to erase optical media (CD-RW and DVD-RW) on MacOS X using the MacOS X Disc Recording framework. It doesn't do anything you can't do with Apple's Disk Utility or Roxio's Toast, but it's much simpler to use.

System Requirements

MediaEraser was compiled and tested on MacOS X 10.3, and works fine on MacOS 10.2.8. It may work on earlier versions, but has not been tested. To be of any use, you also require a CD or DVD burner that is supported by the Disc Recording Framework.

Installation Instructions

To install MediaEraser, download and mount the disk image. Drag the MediaEraser application to a suitable location on your Hard Drive (such as the Applications folder).

Using MediaEraser

When you run MediaEraser, you're presented with the main window, as follows:

The various parts of the window are described next:

Device field

This shows the system name of your burner.

Status field

This shows the current status of the device. This will indicate if erasable media is present or not.

Open Tray button

Use this button to open the tray. For slot-load drives, this will eject any mounted media. For tray-load drives, it will eject mounted media (if there is any), or just open the drive if no media is mounted.

When a tray-load device is open, this button becomes a "Close Tray" button.

Full Erase button

When erasable media is present, this button will be enabled. Clicking it will do a full erase of the media. The time taken for a full erase depends on the capabilities of your burner and the speed of the media – it could be up to 30 minutes (or more) on slower drives using 1x media. After the media is erased, it will be automatically ejected.

Quick Erase button

When erasable media is present, this button will be enabled. Clicking it will do a quick erase of the media. The time taken for a quick erase is considerably less than for a full erase. With a quick erase, only the first section of the media is erased - this is enough to convince other burning applications that the media is blank, but does not actually erase content from the disk. After the media is erased, it will be automatically ejected.

(Lack of) Multiple Burner Support

MediaEraser does not properly support systems with multiple burners. The first available burner in the device tree will be the one MediaEraser uses. A future release of the program may address this issue.

Feedback

Feedback, suggestions, and reproducible bugs are welcome. Please contact the author via e-mail at:

adg@mac.com

Because I have a regular job, and write software in my spare time, please don't be offended if I don't reply.

Release History

1.0   6 May 2003   First public release.
        19 January 2005   Re-released with documentation and a nice web page ☺

This software was developed using the Cocoa APIs and Xcode.

Disclaimer

This software is supplied "as is, where is", and is provided in good faith. You choose to use it at your own risk. While welcoming suggestions for improvement, the author accepts no responsibility for losses incurred, and offers no guarantees about the suitability of the software for any specific purpose.