How To: Create Audio CD's for your 1-Series
Courtesy of **Keeval**

Introduction

Depending on the knowledge of the user, the process of converting MP3 file to an Audio CD for use in the standard Business Radio, or creating a CD of MP3 files for the Professional Radio can be very easy, or a daunting challenge. Hopefully this little article will answer a few questions and make the process a little easier.

I will split this article into three main sections:

1.   CDs for the Professional Radio - No Navigation.
2.   CDs for the Business Radio/Professional Radio - Navigation System Installed
3.   Other Stuff.

What do I need to do this?

To write your own CDs the requirements are quite simple.
        A PC/Mac with a soundcard.
        A CD/DVD Writer
        Some CD Writing Software. A good one is Nero which I use.

Section 1: CDs for the Professional Radio - No Navigation

As the Professional Radio (Option 663) has an MP3 decoder built into it (if you are not using a Navigation system) then this section is pretty short as it's fairly simple as all you need to do is create a Data CD.

The BMW Professional Radio is designed to read any CD which has a standard ISO 9960 format. This is an International Standard format with is designed so that most computers (PC, Macs etc..) can share data. Most CD Burning packages will create CD's of this standard as default.

A slightly extended version of this format is Microsofts Joliet format - which works exactly like the above format, but has extra support for International Characters. As far as I know the BMW Professional radio will read this format (as I use it).

Steps:
1.   Create the file structure for the CD.
2.   Create a directory on your PC called something like "Car CD"
3.   Create any sub-directories in this directory you require, such as the name of the artist or album. The BMW Professional Radio understands folders and will group the track lists together on display (in Track List Mode) for easy navigation of tracks.
4.   Copy the MP3 files that you want on the CD into the correct directories.
5.   Load up your CD burning software and select to create a DATA CD.

6. When asked to add the files you wish to put onto the CD - just select the folder "Car CD" (in this example).
7. Ensure the format of the CD is set to ISO9960 or Joliet and click BURN.
8. Wait a few moments (depending on you CD Drive Speed) and hey presto.. one CD that will play in you Professional Radio.

Section 2: CDs for the Business Radio/Professional Radio - Navigation System Installed

The standard Business Radio or if you have the Professional Radio installed with a Navigation system will only play standard Audio CDs.

Below are the steps necessary to create an Audio CD from your MP3/WMA collection.

Steps:
1. Load up your CD burning software and select to create an AUDIO CD
2. When asked to add the files you wish to put onto the CD - just select the MP3s/WMAs you wish to convert into Audio Tracks. (ensure that they will fit onto the CD once they are converted to audio tracks)
3. Click BURN.
4. Wait a few moments (depending on you CD Drive Speed) and hey presto.. one Audio CD.

Section 3: Other Stuff

I have recently started using Apples iTunes software. Which is a free download. This software enables you to download music from the internet, transfer it to your iPod (if you own one) and also Burn MP3 files to Audio CD.

One other useful feature of iTunes it has the ability to convert WMA files into MP3 files.