

MAC LESSON #84

CHECK FILE SIZE BEFORE BURNING TO CD

Mac OS X Tiger includes a new Burn Folder feature in Finder. This feature makes burning (copying) files to a CD disk easier than ever. You just drag the files you want to burn into a burn folder, insert a blank CD-R disk, and click on the Burn button.

What happens next is that the Finder fills the burn folder with aliases, rather than the original files. So once the burn is complete, you can trash the burn folder without losing your work. I know that all sounds good, but there is a downside here. The Finder's size display for Burn Folders is WRONG! It shows the size of the alias files, and not the originals. So how do you find out must how much disk space your files will require?

Perhaps the quickest way is to click on the Burn button before inserting a blank CD disk. Finder will display a dialog box listing the amount of disk space the files require.

Another option is to select the burn folder in the Finder, then press Command + I, and then click on the triangle next to the Burning section of the resulting dialog box. When you click on the Calculate button, the Content Size field will display the size of the files within the folder.

