

LESSON 75

WIN 95 STARTUP DISK WITH CD-ROM ENABLED

With Windows 98 we can create startup disks that can enable your CD-ROM disk in a DOS mode. Should you ever have to reformat your hard drive and reinstall Windows 98, you must have a DOS-based access to your CD-ROM drive. Windows 95, unfortunately, never gave us this ability. Here's how you can create a Windows 95 startup disk that enables DOS communication with your CD-ROM drive.

STEP 1:

Place a floppy disk in the floppy disk drive and insert fully. Double-click on My Computer and then double-click on Control Panel. Select Add/Remove Programs. Click on the Startup Disk tab and then on Create Disk. Note that any information on that floppy disk will be lost. When the process is finished click on OK.

STEP 2:

Double-click on My Computer and then on Control Panel. Double-click on System icon and then select Device Manager. Double-click on the CD-ROM icon and make note of the make and model CD-ROM your computer uses. You'll use this information to select the correct driver for your CD-ROM disk. Click on OK to close.

STEP 3:

Click on Start and then on Run. Type "notepad a:\autoexec.bat" in the Open: box (without the quotes) and click on OK. If Windows can't find the file a: autoexec.bat it will ask you if you want it created. Answer YES. With the prompt on a blank line type: "MSCDEX.EXE /D: MSCD000" (without the quotes). Click on File and then save the file.

STEP 4:

Again click on Start and select Run. Type "notepad a:\config.sys"(without the quotes) and click on OK. Now type the following two lines:

DEVICE=(your CD-ROM driver goes here. Select from the list below and replace this text with the correct driver name.)

LASTDRIVE=Z

[For Teac drives use:	TEAC_CDI.SYS]
[For Toshiba drives use:	TAISATAP.SYS]
[For Sony drives use:	ATAPI_CD.SYS]
[For Mitsumi drives use:	[MTMCDAI.SYS]

If you can't locate the driver, look at www.download.com for a list of free downloadable CD-ROM drivers. You can also go to the Web site of the manufacturer of your CD-ROM drive to download the correct driver file.



STEP 5:

Click on Start and open Run. Type "XCOPY C:\WINDOWS\COMMAND\MSCDDEX.EXE A:\\" (without the quotes) and click on OK. When the copy operation is finished, click on the X in the top right corner of the open MS-DOS box. Now open Run again and type "XCOPY (folder location)(driver name) a:\\" (again without the quotes.) Be sure to use the name of your CD-ROM driver and the name of the folder containing the driver in place of (folder location) (driver name). For example, `XCOPY C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM (ATAPI_CD.SYS A:\\"` will copy the CD-ROM drive from: \WINDOWS \SYSTEM to drive A.

What we have done here is to create a bootable floppy disk that loads the Windows operating system program and brings you to the A: prompt. You can now access your CD-ROM drive as drive D: by just typing "D:\SETUP" (without the quotes) and pressing the Enter key. Windows will now start the install process from your CD-ROM disk.

