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DiscPainter – Eliminating Paper CD & DVD Labels

The Dymo DiscPainter is a small inkjet printer that directly prints your own full color CD or DVD label designs directly onto the surface of your spinning printable discs. This machine is small in physical size (5 ½ wide, 10 ½ long, 4 ¼ tall) but super sized when it comes to fast speed and high quality printing.

It uses its one tri-color (RGB) ink cartridge to print your full color 600 dpi design, from edge to hub, directly onto your disk in about one minute. If you want unbelievable detail you can set DiscPainter to print at 1200 dpi. Its innovative design provides a viewing window so you can watch your spinning disc as it is being printed. You can see DiscPainter perform its magic at: <http://global.dymo.com/enUS/DiscPainterVideo/Video.html>

Do you still paste printed labels on your home or school made CDs and DVDs? If you answered yes, you definitely need a DiscPainter before one of these paper labels starts to peel inside your CD or DVD player. When one of my DVD's decided to shed its label

inside my computer's drive it took me about an hour to free the label and save the drive.

To prevent another pasted disk label failure, I copied all my home made CD and DVDs and labeled each



one using a felt tip marker. Too bad I didn't save the original design files on my computer. If I had, I could have used DiscPainter's software to recreate the original designs using a printing technology that is a permanent addition to the surface of the disc.

If your current paper label designs aren't saved on your computer, you still can copy them to your computer using a regular flat bed scanner. Just scan them and save each one as a JPEG file. You can now import the label that you

saved as a photo image into the Dymo DiscPainter software for printing.

If your designs are saved on your computer you should be able to print them using the software that you used to create them. The link, provided earlier in this review, has a "How It Works" listing that describes how to use DiscPainter with third party software. The link can actually serve as an online tutorial explaining all the ins and outs of using DiscPainter with different size and brand discs, ink densities, software, etc.

Recalling the Facts

1. Why are the paper disc labels that are glued onto CD and DVD discs suddenly getting a bad reputation?
2. As a future inventor how would you improve the design of this machine?

Dr. Alan J. Pierce is co-author of Introduction to Technology Glencoe McGraw-Hill 2005 and a TechDirections Magazine Columnist. Visit www.techtoday.us for past columns and resources.