Subject: Cleaning CDs
Posted by audioaudio90 on Fri, 12 Aug 2011 11:08:43 GMT
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How often you wipe down your CDs? I do it only when I see smudges, but I have a friend who apparently has a lot of time on her hands, because she wipes them down once a month!

Subject: Re: Cleaning CDs
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 12 Aug 2011 15:02:24 GMT
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Cleaning vinyl is a ritual for me, but not so with CDs. I'll give 'em a gentle swipe across my shirt if they're dusty, won't if they're not. If I see a fingerprint smudge (tisk-tisk), I'll lightly buff them with a non-abrasive, lint-free cloth until the smudge is gone. I always wipe perpendicular to the tracks, usually in a oval motion that's mostly from edge to center and back.

Subject: Re: Cleaning CDs
Posted by LizardBat on Sat, 13 Aug 2011 19:29:55 GMT
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Cleaning CD surfaces may not be as necessary as cleaning vinyl because the disc reader does not actually touch the disc, but cleaning them should be done on occasion. Never wipe a CD in a circle! Always wipe them radially, preferably from the inside out. They are made of vinyl, just like LPs, so do not touch the playing surface with your finger tips, as this may eventually cause deterioration (from finger grease). Lint free clothes work best.

In addition, be careful not to scratch the back of the disc (the "painted" side). The playing surface has a back up layer of information in a replicated disc, so if it gets scratched accidentally, there is still the information there behind the top layer and the disc may still play. If you scratch the back and the lining with the data flakes off, the disc is irreparable.

Subject: Re: Cleaning CDs
Posted by audioaudio90 on Mon, 15 Aug 2011 12:30:29 GMT
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I agree it is important to clean CDs but I think my friend's monthly habit is overkill.

Cleaning the CD in a circle is the most common mistake I see; I always correct someone who is doing that.

Subject: Re: Cleaning CDs
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 15 Aug 2011 16:22:44 GMT
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Some related information in this thread:
Curious about Cds and DVDs - What part can you touch?A little more about the physical format of compact disks:
Compact Disks FAQ
Compact Disks FAQ 2
Blu-Ray physical format whitepaper
Blu-Ray physical format specifications

Subject: Re: Cleaning CDs
Posted by LoveJB on Wed, 09 Nov 2011 01:32:49 GMT
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Wow, I only wipe them down when I'm using them. I might blow on them every once in a while but I don't clean them. I did not know you had to wipe them down more to be honest.

Subject: Re: Cleaning CDs
Posted by gofar99 on Wed, 09 Nov 2011 20:18:26 GMT
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Hi, I only clean one when I see crud on it. In the early days of CDs a small amount of dirt or a scratch was always a problem. Now most players can handle nearly any kind of a problem and you will never know it. I think my Oppo could play through a cracked CD and not miss a beat.

Vinyl however, I clean when first acquired and about every 4-6 months later if I play it a lot. One product (OT here sure, but good to pass on information) called "In The Groove" is funky as all get out to see , but works great and is cheap. It looks like a small paint roller and has a surface like a Gummy Bear (washable). It removes dust and lint like a magnet. I love it and it only costs about $20.

Subject: Re: Cleaning CDs
Posted by Danny on Mon, 14 Nov 2011 16:02:13 GMT
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If I see any smudges or dust on them, I might give them the hot breath, wipe on the shirt treatment. I don't just leave my CD's laying around to get dirty.