

Organizing with CD/DVD Notebooks

by Vicki S. Norris

How many of you still have your music and software CD's and your DVD's in their original packaging? Take a moment to look and see how much room those cases are taking up on your shelves. For instance, how many inches do 24 CD's or DVD's take up? Now, the next time you are in your favorite discount store or department store, stroll back to the electronics department (or wherever they might be hiding them) and look at a CD/DVD notebook that will hold 24 CD's/DVD's. How much shelf space would IT take up? How many times do you look at the original packaging other than to see the title?

Think about how many of these notebooks you would need. For example, how many software CD-ROM's do you have? How many music CD's do you have? How many DVD's do you have? (Yes, count them!) I recommend you get at least three - one for software CD-ROM's, one for music CD's, and one for DVD's - to hold the appropriate number with room for additions. If you have a large number of DVD's, you might want to break them down into smaller groups - animated vs. not animated would be one such division. The same would apply for music CD's - Christian vs. (heaven forbid!) non-Christian. :-) Don't try to make too many different categories or you'll spend more time categorizing than actually making the transition from the original packaging to the notebooks. If you have more than one computer, you might want to put all of the associated software, drivers, etc., for one computer in one notebook. For the DVD notebook(s), put the DVD's in the notebook in "loose" alphabetical order, with empty slots in between the "letters," to make finding a particular DVD easier. You might leave more blank slots between the "S" and "T" titles than between the "X" and "Y" titles. You could also do this for your music CD's - either in order by artists' last name/group name or the title of the CD.

If you have sets of CD's or DVD's, you might make an allowance and leave those in the original packages so that they will all be together.

Hang onto a few empty cases in case you want to loan out any CD's or DVD's, so you'll have a protective package to place them in.

"Rock on" into another area of organization. :-)

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