

MINIDISCS

About Minidiscs

The Minidisc was introduced by Sony in the early 1990s and although intended for the consumer market, it's great sound quality along with it's ease of editing, found favour with the entertainment industry. Like the CD, it started life with a 60 minute maximum recording time, which was soon upgraded to 74 and subsequently the current 80 minute standard.

A 16 bit 44.1 kHz sample rate is used (the same as for a CD) and the specification is achieved on this much smaller disc by using ATRAC, a data compression system that incredibly seems to have little or no audible effect on quality. The principle may be frowned upon by some professionals, but in practice most would find it hard to distinguish a minidisc copy from it's original.

Transfer of audio

Your minidisc is played on a good quality deck and recorded into a computer programme. Next the file is processed, including optimising the levels to provide the best playback volume and (where appropriate) inserting markers to allow searching for specific tracks. When this is complete, the programme is 'burnt' to a disc and a simple text label printed and fitted. Finally, the CD is tested for correct operation and supplied with a library case.

It should be noted that a recordable CD can hold an absolute maximum of 80 minutes, so longer running times will require more than one CD.

Please ring us on **01329 238522** for further details.