JABA for Haiku, BeOS and ZETA

Just Another Burning Application

User Manual

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1 Introduction to JABA

Welcome to JABA, your all-in-one CD and DVD burning tool. It is also great at creating image files, mastering audio CDs and copying your discs. JABA is the short form for the bulky name "Just Another Burning Application". Technically it is a practical user interface to a range of complex commandline utilities – mainly cdrecord, a fine CD and DVD recording utility by Jörg Schilling. (JABA will give you a complete list of used tools in it's About window.)

JABA was developed by DasJott in 2005 using the free BASIC programming language yab. Yab was specially designed for Haiku, BeOS and ZETA and JABA was the first major application written with it. First, JABA was released for ZETA exclusively. However, after the decline of ZETA the original author who still keeps the rights on the sourcecode, lost interest in JABA and the Be community.

Team Maui[1], a group of enthusiastic developers and designers gained the rights to release JABA under the terms and conditions of the free Haiku License. The team cleaned up the code and also this manual, and replaced all images for a better Haiku style.

1.1 Getting Started with JABA

Starting JABA for the first time, will open a small setup window first, expecting a few important settings from you to make. Please refer to Section 2 for more details on the possible configuration options.
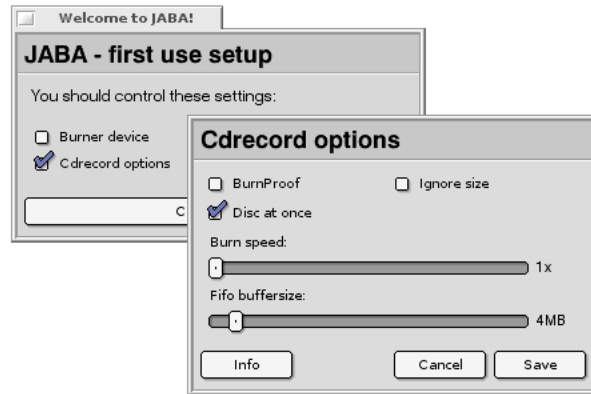
In the first window of the setup klick on "Start setup" and you'll see two checkboxes to be checked. The first checkbox leads you to the "Burner Device" settings window. Please select your CD or DVD burner here, to let JABA know which one of your drives is now your default burner.

Selecting a CD or DVD burner from the list

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[1] http://www.team-maui.org

The second checkbox leads you to the "Cdrecord Options" settings window. Here you can set some special options for your buner.

Configuring your burner

Hint: If you set the speed higher than your drive is able to work with, cdrecord will set the speed as high as your drive is able to – automaticly.

You don't have to do these steps (you can press "Quit setup" to start JABA immediately), but it is highly recommended to do so, to get JABA running best.

1.2 The Default Interface

After setup the main window of JABA appears. You see a range of Icons, some infoviews and a listbox.. See the graphic for description:

1.3 Selecting a Mode

2 Settings

In the main-menu you can find the point "Settings", which JABA provides all important settings with.

2.1 Burner

In this window JABA lists all the drives cdrecord could find. Please select your burner device with the dropbox. If you are not sure, which one is your burner, press the "Info"-button to get some more information about the chosen drive. If that also doesn't help you, please see the manual of your computer or contact the manufactor to find out the burner device. The "Cancel"-button will close the window without saving - the "Save"-button will save the currently chosen drive as the burner device and then close the window.

2.2   Cdrecord options

Here you can find a few special options for cdrecord to set. If your burner device supports "BurnProof", it is highly recommended to select that point. If the option "Size ¿ 700MB" is set, JABA will let you burn more than the disc is able to. Use on your own risk! The checkbox named "Force blanking RW" lets JABA ignore errormessages that might come up while blanking a RW-disc and simply continues blanking-process (if possible). Set the burn speed of your burner device. You can get that info from the manual of your burner. Usually there should be no risk to set the burn speed higher than your burner is able to, because if it is set too high, cdrecord will use the highest speed that is possible. For setting Fifo buffersize, please see also the manual of your burner device. The "Info"-buttons leads you to a window containing a few infos about your currently used cdrecord-version. The "Cancel"-buttons closes the window without saving anything. The "Save"-button saves the settings you made and then closes the window.

2.3   Data Filesystem

Here you can set the filesystem you want to use while burning data-discs. The default is set to "Windows joliet", as the filenames are looking best on the CD after burning. The ISO-standard requires to fit the filenames to a standard set of characters. Please see the tooltips for getting a bit more info about each filesystem.

2.4   Interface

Here you can choose between the "Standard GUI" and the "Simple GUI". GUI means Graphical User Interface. You are also able to change the main color of JABA. A preview of the currently set color is given via the background of the interface-settings-window. With the "Standard"-button, JABA's GUI is set to the standard interface and color. The changes will appear, when you press the "Save"-button and restart JABA (close start JABA again). Just try it.

3   Burn a Disk

You set your burner device and the cdrecord options and just want to burn some files to a disc now? Ok, then let's go.

3.1   Burn audio-disc

First select "Audio-disc" from the iconbar (standard GUI) or via the drop-box (simple GUI). Now drop some audio-files into the list. Be sure to only

drop audio-files and to drop them from a BFS-volume (e.g. the ZETA-partition). As an audio-disc can only contain files in a special-defined format (WAV) for being played in a HiFi-CDplayer, JABA converts every dropped file to that format - if needed. So it may take a short time for converting, if non-WAV files were dropped, but you can then be sure to get a real high-quality audio-disc. You can give the project a name - though it will not be used on the disc itself (because of the audio-cd standard) it is used, if you save the project (see 6. Project management). The copy protection provided here may be recognized by HiFi-CDburners. If so, the audio-disc created by JABA can not be copied. When you completed the collection and want to burn it, press the "Burn"-button. A burn window will be opened. Just to be sure, the project name and the burner device name is showed in the first two lines. Below them a few checkboxes are provided. If you don't know the meaning of the options, just leave them on default settings (and see "3.2 Burn data-disc"). If the "Burn!"-button is pressed, the disc will be burned - without any way back. You can't cancel the burning-process, once started.

3.2   Burn data-disc

First select "Data-disc" from the iconbar (standard GUI) or via the dropbox (simple GUI). You can choose between burning a CD or a DVD. Corresponding to that choice, the disc-size will be shown in the statusbar. Now drop some files or folders into the list. You should also give that project a name, as it will be the name of the disc, when it is burnt. For the options "Multisession" and "Boot image" see "5. Advanced functions" in manual. When you completed the collection and want to burn it, press the "Burn"-button. A burn window will be opened. Just to be sure, the project name and the burner device name is showed in the first two lines. Below them a few checkboxes are provided. Streaming: Write the files directly to the disc, without creating an imagefile first. This means a higher risk, as an imagefile is created directly to the disc - on the fly. In most cases that option works without problems and means less time for burning. Fixate: Also called "Finalise". Means that the disc will be written with a TOC (table of contents), so that no more files can be burnt on that disc (this is not multisession!). Without setting that option you can burn one session in a few steps - but the disk may not be readable until it is fixated! Disc at once: Opposite to "Track at once". Means that all data is written as one track on the CD. Eject disc when finished: Ejects the disc after burning it. Keep image and save as: When you set that option, a filepanel will open expecting a name to save the created imagefile with. If streaming is set this option is disabled, as streaming means no creation of an imagefile on the harddisk. Quit when finished: Quits JABA after burning the disc.

3.3 Copy disc

Select "Copy disc" from the "Disc"-menu or from the iconbar in standard GUI. A copy-window opens then, providing further options. You have to select, if you want to copy a data-disc or a audio-disc. Copying an audio-disc while using "Copy data disc" will NOT work! Also note, that there won't be created any imagefile when copying an audio-disc! Because of the special way of copying audio-discs used in JABA, some options will be disabled when set to "Copy audio disc". Next select the source device to copy from. It is understood, that the option "On the fly" (aka direct-copy) is disabled, if source and target device is the

4 Imagefiles

JABA is able to create, read and burn imagefiles. You can also use CUE-files with JABA. Take a look in the "Image"-menu or (for standard GUI use) in the iconbar below the menu.

4.1 Create imagefile

For creating an imagefile with JABA, you just have to drop some files into the list and select "Create imagefile" from the menu or the iconbar. A filepanel opens to let you choose the name and place to save the imagefile. After typing in the name, press the "Save"-button to create an imagefile from the current project.

4.2 Read image from disc

Reading discs and creating an imagefile from it. Does only work with data-discs! After selecting this function, a filepanel opens expecting a name and place to save the imagefile to, once it is created. Type one in and press the "Save"-button. After doing that, a small window opens where you can set the device which contains the disc to read the imagefile from.

4.3 Burn imagefile

If this function is chosen, a filepanel opens expecting you to selct an image-file. Select one and press the "Open"-button to get to the next window. In that window you can also set "Fixate". In this case, it means that the disc will not be finished, so you can burn another imagefile on the same disc.

4.4 Burning CUE-file

Some imagefiles (or sets of imagefiles) may provided with a CUE-file. A CUE-file is kind of a "manual how to burn the imagefile(s)". So if you got imagefile(s) together with such a CUE-file, it's recommended to use it. After

selecting this function a filepanel opens expecting you to choose the CUE-file. Select one and press the "Open"-button to get to the next window, wher you can set the same options as in "Burn imagefile".

5 Advanced functions

Like the functions described under 4. wouldn't be enough, JABA provides some special functions for burning. For details read the following.

5.1 Multisession

Multisession discs are disc, that can be written in more than one step. Therefore it is written a special TOC after each session. If you think the disc is finished and want to burn the real last session on that disc, you can also fixate it, as described below. Creating multisession discs with JABA is really easy. For the first session just set the "Multisession"-checkbox on active and burn the session. For any further session simply do the same - set "Multisession" and burn the session. JABA automaticly detects, if it is the first session or if it is a further session. When you want to finish (fixate) the disc, set the "Last session"-checkbox in the burn window appering after pressing the "Burn"-button.

5.2 Blank RW-disc

To blank a RW-disc select this function. Description of the options: Blank fast: This option is recommended, as it is adequate in most cases. Blank all: This option will take much more time than the "Blank fast"-option, as the whole disc will be blanked. So be very patient, if chosen this. Blank last session: Will blank the last session of a multisession-disc - if it's not fixated.

5.3 Fixate disc

If you have got a disc, which you think it is not fixated you can do that single step with this function.

6 Project management

You collected some files/folders in JABA but want to burn it some time later? No problem, just save your project. For that select "Save project" in the "File"-menu. A filepanel opens expecting a name for the project. The standard-projectfolder is always opened first in this filepanel. It is recommended to save all projects in that directory, as you have a fast access that way. Saving projects to other directories on your ZETA-partition is also no problem. Note: Please only save projectfiles on BFS-volumes! Otherwise

you won't be able to load them back to JABA. For each project a projectfile and a folder will be created. The folder contains the folder-structure and the files as links. The projectfile itself is the one to be loaded, to get the project back to JABA will only load projectfiles created with JABA.

7 Frequently Asked Questions

What is JABA?

JABA is a graphical user interface. It uses commandline-tools for doing the work, especially cdrecord to burn discs.

How do I get the files and folders I'd like to burn into JABA?

As usual in ZETA drag'n'drop is used for JABA. That means, that you can simply drag the files and folders from Tracker and drop them onto the listfield.

Does JABA not provide fullscreen-view?

As files and folders can only be added via drag'n'drop from Tracker, it is important that there is enough place left, when pressed the zoom-button in the tab.

Sometimes JABA takes a few seconds while adding data to the list?

JABA takes care of your data. It uses a temporary system, so your data is save while removing, moving, adding and browsing in JABA. Audiofiles are always converted to the required format, so you should always get best results for audio-discs.

I can't drop my audiofiles for creating an audio-disc?

Copy the files to a BFS-volume like your ZETA-partition. Then select them all and rightclick them. Choose "Indentify" in the Tracker-menu. JABA needs the file-attributes used on BFS to recognize audio-data.

The displayed playtime in JABA in audiomode isn't correct?

Yes, sometimes it happens, that compressed wav-data causes the time-display to