How to flash a Spider chip using a disk

Revision 1.0

Flashing the Spider chip with a bios of your choice is the first thing to do once you chip is properly fitted and your console reassembled. The special Cromwell bios provided with the chip is a customized version of a Linux bios. It allows you to reprogram the chip only by inserting a bios disk in your Xbox DVD drive. This tutorial will show you how to make Xbox-bootable disk with your bios file. If you already have a Xbox hard disk with a bios file on it, you can use it without having to burn a CD (the bios file must be in c:\bios).
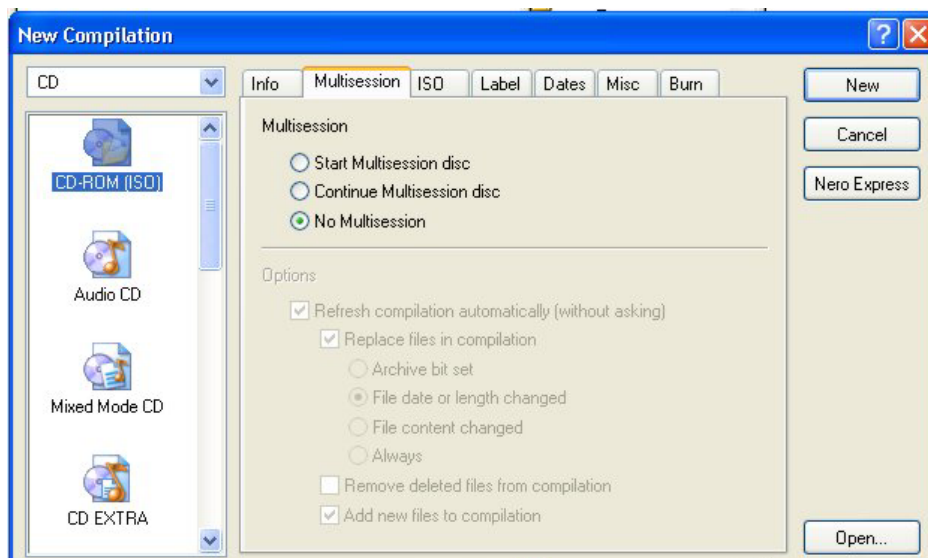
First, you should be aware that the Xbox drive is kind of 'picky', it will not like a bios file burned on a standard CDR just the way you burn any other data. CDRW are preferred by most Xbox drives, so we suggest that you use this media first.
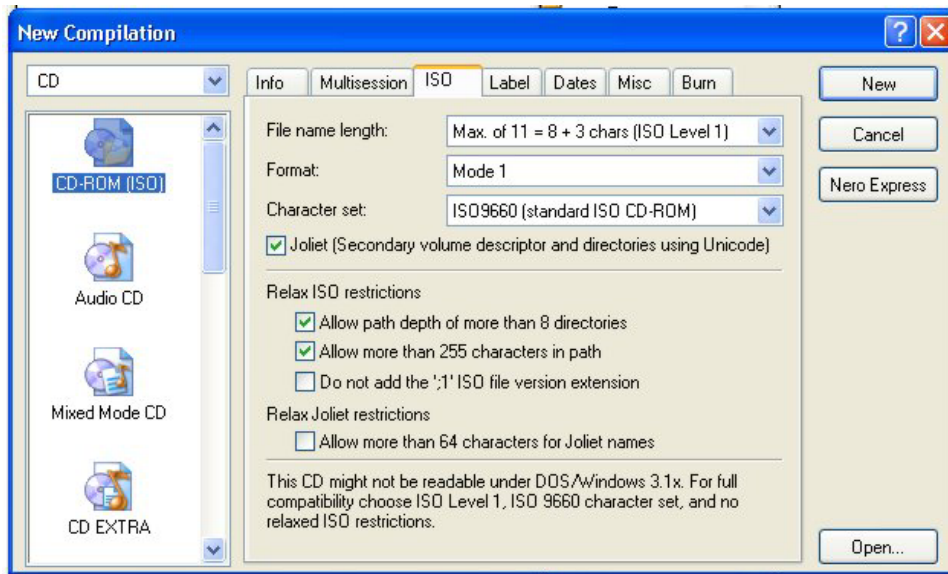
1) ***Making a bios disk using Nero or a similar burning software***
    You can use Nero or an other software to burn the disk but just make sure that you select the same options.
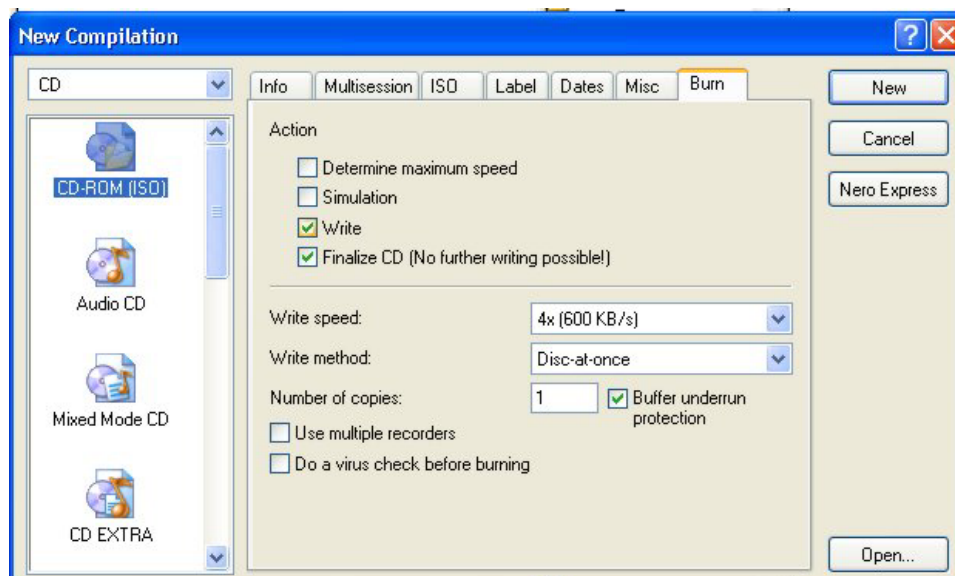   Select a **256k bios** file of your choice and **rename it as bios.bin**. You will also need a 'dummy file' to pump up the space burned on your CDRW to make it more 'readable' by your Xbox drive. Use any file of about 50 Mb and rename is as ZZZ.ZZZ for example. Just make sure that you don't rename it as a bios file.

    You are now ready to make a new compilation in your burning software. Select the following options:

…and make sure that you don't burn the CDRW too fast:

Then, just drag your 2 files (dummy and bios.bin file) in the compilation and burn it the way you would burn any other CD.

2) *Flashing the Spider chip*

All you have to do to start you console with the Spider chip enabled. The Cromwell bios screen will appear and you should see this:

Select the first item 'Load BIOS from Disc' and press A on your game controller. The CD tray will open. You will then be prompted to insert your bios disk.

When the file is found, the chip will reprogram itself with the file... that's it!

If you get this message ('No bios Update found'):

…suspect your CD and burn a new one. Make sure that you placed the 2 files on the disk. It's not a bad idea to use a brand new disk and if it doesn't work, use a different brand or a different burner.

Download links:
Nero burning rom: http://ahead.de/en/
Dummy file: Use any file of 50 Mb or more and rename it as anything but bios.bin.