

Comparative Analysis of M-Disc vs. LTO data tape

	TRANSFER RATE	STORAGE CAPACITY	BACKWARD COMPATIBILITY	COST OF HARDWARE	COST OF MEDIA	COST PER GIGABYTE	RANDOM ACCESS?	FORWARD COMPATIBILITY	ENCRYPTION?
LTO-6	160 MB/sec	2.5TB	n-2, depends on tape drive	\$2-2,500 plus any added cost for interface equipment	\$55.00	\$0.022	yes (1)	n+2	256-bit AES (drive-based - if enabled)
M-DISC types:									
DVD	4X real-time (2)	4.7GB	will play on existing DVD players (4)	less than \$100 (6)	\$3.00 (8)	\$0.64	yes	plays in all DVD players	various, based on writing application used
DVD BLU-RAY	see (3)	25GB	same as above (5)	same as above (7)	\$5.00 (9)	\$0.20	yes	plays in all DVD Blu-Ray players	same as above

NOTES: (please also note all specs are from manufacturer websites)

1. Random access is only available on tapes written in LTF5 format (LTO-5 or greater)

2. at a 4X maximum write speed, USB 2.0 can provide a burst rate of 60MB/sec, which should eclipse the 4X write speed of DVD (approximately 5.3MB/sec)

3. at a 4X maximum write speed, USB 2.0 can provide a burst rate of 60MB/sec, which should eclipse the 4X write speed of DVD Blu-Ray (approximately 18MB/sec)

4. Per manufacturer specifications

5. Per manufacturer specifications

6. Must ensure that the burner is "M-Disc" compatible

7. Must ensure that the burner is "M-Disc" compatible

8. Prices pulled from amazon.com on 9/10/14 and do not include cost of jewel case or j-card

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