



Nero ImageDrive Manual

Nero AG

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1 General information

1.1 About the manual

This manual is intended for all users who want to find out how to use Nero ImageDrive. It is task-based and explains how to achieve a particular objective on a step-by-step basis.

In order to make best use of this manual, please note the following conventions:

Symbol	Meaning
	Indicates warnings, preconditions or instructions that have to be followed strictly.
	Indicates additional information or advice.
1. Start ...	A number at the beginning of a line indicates a request for action. Carry out these actions in the order specified.
	Indicates an intermediate result.
	Indicates a result.
OK	Indicates text passages or buttons that appear in the program interface. They are shown in bold face.
<u>Chapter</u>	Indicates references to other chapters. They are executed as links and are shown in red and underlined.
[...]	Indicates keyboard shortcuts for entering commands.

1.2 About Nero ImageDrive

Nero ImageDrive allows you to set up a virtual drive. The virtual drive is visible in Microsoft Windows Explorer™ and can be used just like a real drive. Instead of an actual disc, you mount images in the virtual drive. An image file is a file that contains an image of a complete CD or DVD and can be created in Nero Burning ROM, for example. From the virtual drive, you can open, display, and execute files and programs, depending on the contents of the mounted image. Nero ImageDrive provides fast drive simulation.

Nero ImageDrive can automatically mount images at startup. You can also mount images from Microsoft Windows Explorer™ or by entering a command line.

Nero ImageDrive supports up to two drives simultaneously for CD and DVD disc types and NRG and ISO image formats.

2 Technical information

2.1 System requirements

2.1.1 Operating systems supported

Nero ImageDrive works on the following operating systems:

- Microsoft® Windows® 2000 (with at least Service Pack 4 installed)
- Microsoft® Windows® XP (with at least Service Pack 2 installed)
- Microsoft® Windows® Media Center Edition
- Microsoft® Windows Server® 2003 (with at least Service Pack 1 installed)

In addition, Microsoft® DirectX® 9.0c (or higher) must be installed on your operating system. The latest version of DirectX® can be downloaded from the Internet under <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/directx> and installed.

2.2 Minimum requirements

Main memory: 128 MB
Hard drive: Up to 9 GB for DVD images



Installation of the latest WHQL-certified drivers is recommended. WHQL stands for Windows Hardware Quality Labs and means that the device driver certified by Microsoft® is compatible with Microsoft® Windows® and the relevant hardware.

2.3 Formats supported

Nero ImageDrive supports the following formats:

Image file formats	Image disc types
■ NRG ■ ISO	■ CD ■ DVD-ROM

3 Launching the program

3.1 Launching Nero ImageDrive via Nero StartSmart

To launch Nero ImageDrive via Nero StartSmart, proceed as follows:

1. Click on the **Nero StartSmart** icon.
→ The Nero StartSmart window is opened.
2. Click on the arrow button in the left margin of the window.
→ The extended area is opened.



Fig. 1: Nero StartSmart

3. Select the **Nero ImageDrive** entry in the **Applications** list box.
→ The **Nero ImageDrive** window is opened.
→ You have launched Nero ImageDrive via Nero StartSmart.

3.2 Launching Nero ImageDrive directly

To launch **Nero ImageDrive** directly, proceed as follows:

1. Select **Start** (Start icon) > **(All) Programs** > **Nero 7 (Premium)** > **Tools** > **Nero ImageDrive**.
→ The **Nero ImageDrive** window is opened.
→ You have launched Nero ImageDrive.

4 Working with Nero ImageDrive

4.1 Program interface

The Nero ImageDrive program interface is the starting point for enabling Nero ImageDrive, configuring up to two virtual drives, and mounting image files.

Nero ImageDrive has up to three tabs: the **Options** tab is always available, while the **First drive** and **Second drive** tabs are only displayed when the corresponding drives are enabled.

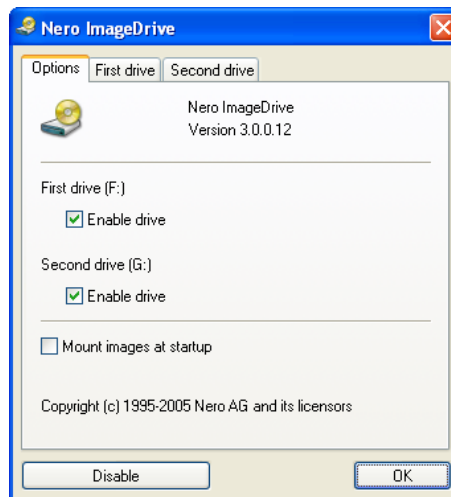


Fig. 2: **Options** tab

The following input options are available:

Enable/Disable	Enables/disables Nero ImageDrive (see Enabling Nero ImageDrive).
OK	Applies any changes and closes Nero ImageDrive.
Options tab	
Enable first/second drive	Enables the first/second virtual drive (see Enabling drives).
Mount images at startup	Mounts image files automatically at startup.
First and Second drive tabs	
Image	Displays the file name of the currently or most recently mounted image.
...	Displays the Open Image window where you can select an image file.
Show Image Info	Opens the Information window which provides information about the mounted image file, such as the name, date, and size.
Eject	Disables the image (corresponds to ejecting a disc). Once the image is disabled, the Load button is displayed.
Load	Mounts the image that is displayed in the Image display panel. Once the image is mounted, the Eject button is displayed.

4.2 Sample applications

Nero ImageDrive is a virtual drive that can load images. An image or image file is a virtual image of a CD or DVD. Nero ImageDrive allows you to treat images like discs and open files or run programs from the virtual drive (which you can find in Microsoft Windows Explorer™).

Nero ImageDrive is ideal for applications such as:

- Loading the image of a game CD in Nero ImageDrive to eliminate the annoying spin-up noise when the game is launched.
- Loading frequently used discs, such as a telephone book CD, as an image in Nero ImageDrive so that the CD does not have to be inserted each time you want to use it.
- Creating an image of a video or slide show that you are creating with Nero Vision, for example, so that you can test it with Nero ImageDrive first.



You can create images with Nero Burning ROM (from data on the computer or as a copy of an inserted disc) as well as with applications such as Nero Vision or Nero Recode.



Nero Burning ROM is a full-featured burning program. Nero Burning ROM is part of the Nero 7 Suite and is automatically installed with Nero 7. For more information, see the Nero Burning ROM manual.



Nero Vision is a program for capturing, creating, and burning videos. Nero Recode is a video converter. Both applications are part of the Nero 7 Suite and are automatically installed with Nero 7. For more information, see the Nero Vision and Nero Recode manuals.

5 Enabling Nero ImageDrive

Nero ImageDrive is initially disabled by default. The first time you launch the program you must enable it. You can then use the features of Nero ImageDrive. To enable Nero ImageDrive, proceed as follows:

1. Launch Nero ImageDrive (see [Launching the program](#)).
 - A dialog box is displayed that asks you if you would like to enable Nero ImageDrive.

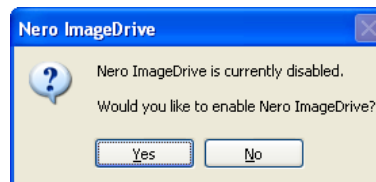


Fig. 3: Enable Nero ImageDrive dialog box

2. Click on the **Yes** button.
 - Nero ImageDrive is enabled. A dialog box advising you that you must restart your computer for the changes to take effect is displayed.
3. Click on the **OK** button.
 - The dialog box is closed.
4. Restart your computer.
 - The enable process is continued. A dialog box is displayed during this process. Nero ImageDrive opens once this process is complete.

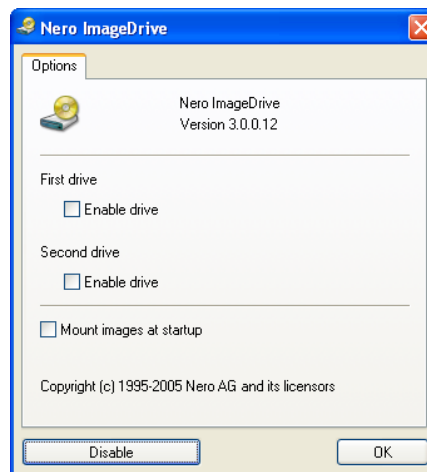


Fig. 4: Nero ImageDrive

- You have enabled Nero ImageDrive. You can now use Nero ImageDrive and enable virtual drives.



If you no longer want to use Nero ImageDrive, you can disable it with the **Disable** button.

6 Enabling drives

After you have enabled Nero ImageDrive, you can use it to configure up to two virtual drives. To do so, proceed as follows:

1. Launch Nero ImageDrive (see [Launching the program](#)).
2. To enable the first drive, check the **First drive > Enable drive** box.
 - ➔ The virtual drive is enabled and the first available drive letter is assigned to it. The drive letter is displayed in parentheses after **First drive**. The **First drive** tab is generated.
3. To enable the second drive, check the **Second drive > Enable drive** box.
 - ➔ The virtual drive is enabled and the first available drive letter is assigned to it. The drive letter is displayed in parentheses after **Second drive**. The **Second drive** tab is generated.

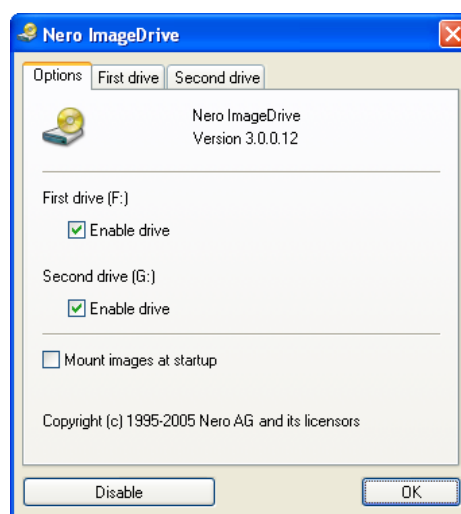


Fig. 5: Nero ImageDrive with two enabled drives

- ➔ You have enabled the drives. The virtual drives are now available on your computer and are displayed in Microsoft Windows Explorer™.

7 Mounting images

7.1 Mounting images with Nero ImageDrive

An image or image file is an individual file on the hard drive that contains an image of a complete disc. An image, therefore, is a virtual disc that you can burn to a real disc with Nero Burning ROM, for example. With the Nero ImageDrive virtual drive, you can load the image (mount the virtual disc) and read or run it.

The following requirement must be satisfied:

- A virtual drive must be enabled.

To mount the image, proceed as follows:

1. Launch Nero ImageDrive (see [Launching the program](#)).
2. Click on the tab of the drive you want.
3. Click on the ... button.
 - The **Open Image** window is displayed.
4. Select the image file you want and click on the **Open** button.
 - The image file is mounted and the file name is displayed in the **Image** display panel. A Microsoft Windows Explorer™ window is opened and displays the contents of the virtual drive.

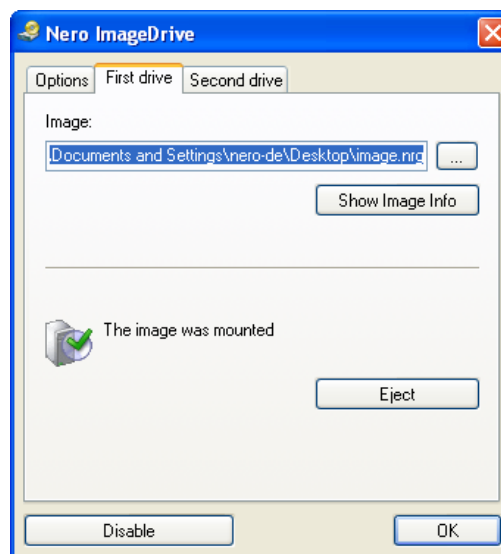


Fig. 6: Mounted image file

5. To view more information about the image file, click the **Show Image Info** button.
 - The **Information** dialog box appears displaying the name, creation date, number of tracks, disc type, and size of the image.

6. If you would like the image to be automatically mounted when the computer starts up:
 1. Click on the **Options** tab.
 2. Check the **Mount images at startup** box.
- You have mounted an image in the virtual drive and can now use it whenever you want. Click on the **Eject** button to disable the image again.



You can enable (mount) a disabled (ejected) image file again quickly with the **Load** button.

7.2 Mounting images from Microsoft Windows Explorer™

You can also mount an image from Microsoft Windows Explorer™ by double-clicking on a virtual drive (as long as a virtual drive is enabled). This only works for the first of a maximum of two configured drives, however.

In order to be able to mount an image from Microsoft Windows Explorer™, you must specify that image files should be opened with Nero ImageDrive. To do so under Windows® XP, for example, proceed as follows:

1. Right-click on an image file to open the context menu.
2. Select **Open With > Choose Program**.

→ The **Open With** window is displayed.
3. Select Nero ImageDrive from the **Programs** list.

If Nero ImageDrive does not appear in the list, click on the **Browse** button and select Nero ImageDrive.
4. Check the **Always use the selected program to open this kind of file** box.
5. Click on the **OK** button.

→ The image is mounted in the first virtual drive.
In future, image files of this type will be mounted in a virtual drive when you double-click on the image.

7.3 Mounting images with command line input

You can also mount an image in a virtual drive with a command line input (as long as a virtual drive is enabled). This only works for the first of a maximum of two configured drives, however.

One possible application would be to save the commands for mounting different images as batch files (*.bat) so that you can quickly switch between the different images without having to open Nero ImageDrive.

The following commands are available:

<pre>cd "\\Path_to_ImageDrive\ ImageDrive "Path_to_Image\image.nrg"</pre>	Mounts the specified image file. Instead of Path_to_ImageDrive, enter the path to the Nero ImageDrive program folder (e.g. Program Files\Nero\Nero 7\Nero ImageDrive). Instead of Path_to_Image, enter the path to the image file. Be certain to append the file name and extension (image.nrg in our example) as well.
<pre>cd "\\Path_to_ImageDrive\ ImageDrive ""</pre>	Ejects the image file.

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