

DVR-2910 / DVR-215D Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are the maximum write speeds of the drive?

- DVD-/+ R single layer: 20X
- DVD-/+ R dual layer: 10X
- DVD-RW: 6X
- DVD+RW: 8X
- CD-R/RW: 40X/32X

2. What type of DVD and CD media can the drive read?

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|------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| ▪ DVD-ROM | ▪ DVD-/+R | ▪ DVD-Video (ss/sl & ss/dl) |
| ▪ DVD-RAM | ▪ DVD-/+RW | ▪ DVD-/+R DL |
| ▪ CD-R | ▪ CD-RW | ▪ CD-DA (CD-Audio) |
| ▪ CD-EXTRA | ▪ CD-Text | ▪ CD-ROM (Mode 1 & 2) |
| ▪ Video CD | ▪ CD-ROM XA | ▪ Photo CD (single/multi session) |

3. Will the drive work with Microsoft® Windows® Vista?

Yes, the drive works with All Microsoft Windows versions. This *WHQL-certified* drive does not require specific drivers to work in the Windows operating systems.

Note: Some bundled software may not work with all versions of Windows.

4. Can other Operating Systems (UNIX®, Linux®, etc) control the drive too?

The drive is designed to work with MS Windows operating systems; however, many customers have successfully installed earlier drive models in PCs with UNIX or Linux Operating systems and with third-party software applications. It is very likely the drive will perform in a similar manner for these operating systems.

Note: Pioneer does not provide technical support for third party drivers. Use the drivers at your own risk. Contact the driver provider for support.

5. Can the drive be installed Vertically as well as Horizontally?

This drive may be installed in either position.

6. What is the interface of the drive?

- Serial ATA (SATA) Revision 2.5
- Gen1i 1.5Gbits/sec

7. How much does the drive weigh?

1.8 pounds (0.8 kg)

8. How can I get the full 4.7 GB of data on a disc?

The total usable disc space available on 4.7GB DVD-R/RW media is approximately 4.37 Gigabytes. The apparent discrepancy is because DVD formats use one billion bytes (1000 x 1000 x 1000) to represent a gigabyte, whereas traditional data storage calculations use a 1024 x 1024 x 1024 value. This amounts to an apparent 7% difference in the total number of bytes when DVD capacities are compared with the traditional calculation; in other words, 4.37 GB = 4.7 billion bytes.

9. Can I use stickers or labels on my DVD recordable discs?

Labels can cause the disc to become unbalanced and are not recommended. An imbalanced disc can warp or shatter and may damage the drive. To label your DVD, use printable media available at most computer and video supply stores.

10. How many times can I rewrite a DVD-RW disc?

The media is rated for 1,000 rewrites. Please check with your preferred media manufacturer for specific information.

11. How much recording time do I have on a disc?

The bit-rate affects the production length. Encoding content at 10 Mbps provides approximately 60 minutes on 4.7 GB DVD media while encoding at 5 Mbps supplies up to 2 hours of recording time.

12. What is a region code and is it required?

- Region codes were created at the request of Hollywood movie studios to allow the studios to control distribution of their movies.
- Region codes are not mandatory.
- There are eight (8) region codes for DVD covering all areas of the globe.
- Most of North America (USA and Canada) and Japan are designated Region 1. For more information about region codes, please visit the DVD Forum website at <http://www.dvdforum.org>

13. Can the drive set/record a region code on my DVD±R/RW DVD-Video disc?

No, DVD recordable drives like the DVR-1910 and DVR-115D cannot set region codes on DVD recordable video discs.

14. Does recordable media have a copy protection scheme to block illegal copying?

General DVD-/±R does not contain a copy protection scheme. However, the DVD-RW format includes the Content Protection for Recordable Media (CPRM) scheme. CPRM is a mechanism for controlling the copying, moving and deleting of material on digital media. Please visit the DVD Forum website at <http://www.dvdforum.org> for more information.

15. What is “Firmware” and why should I care about it?

Firmware is a drive’s internal programming that allows it to recognize various types of discs and perform the correct write strategy for that media.

16. Can my current writer drive record to “CSS on R media” with the proper software?

No, the firmware and drive hardware do not support this type of recording. At the time of this document release, the technology is still very expensive.

17. Can I replace my current writer drive with a Pioneer drive in my duplicator?

Please contact your duplicator manufacturer to confirm that they have qualified this or other Pioneer drives for your specific duplicator model. Most duplicators have proprietary firmware for the installed drives which may not be compatible with a newer drive.

18. What ribbon cable should I use to connect my drive in the PC?

This drive has a Serial ATA (SATA) interface, so a SATA cable is required to be used with it.

19. Is it ok to use a cleaning disc on my Pioneer drive?

Pioneer does not recommend the use of *cleaning disc* products for DVD drives. Cleaning discs were originally designed for CD drives and could damage DVD drive components. For an out-of-warranty drive, if the unit begins to act oddly or looks very dirty, try a short blast of Electronics-grade (sterile, filtered, moisture-free) canned air aimed at the center of the drive mechanism. If this does not clear the problem, please have the drive serviced by a Pioneer-authorized service organization.

20. What tools can be used to verify/test my drive?

Nero CD/DVD Speed, is one of several free applications available for download from the Internet that can evaluate drive performance. Please use the application of your choice.

21. Can I use credit card-shape or odd-shape discs with the drive?

No, the drive supports circular 120MM and 80MM disc types only.

Note: An 80MM disc cannot be used when the drive is mounted vertically.

22. Will this drive read or write Blu-ray Discs?

No, Blu-ray discs require a different type of laser than for CD or DVD discs. This drive is equipped with lasers for CD and DVD reading/writing only.

23. What is LightScribe and does this drive support it?

LightScribe is a patented method of “burning” a label onto the top side of special media created for this purpose. The only Pioneer SATA model that is equipped with this capability is the DVR-213LS.

Note: If a drive supports LightScribe, the logo () usually appears on the box.

24. Why does the software fail to recognize my DVR-213LS as a LightScribe drive?

The most common cause for this issue is that an earlier version of Nero was installed on the system and may not have been completely removed. To be sure that the system is “Clean” from older code Nero has a free utility, appropriately named “CleanTools” (<http://www.nero.com/enu/downloads-cleantools.html>). After the system is cleaned, the issue should be resolved.