



Burn on the Double

Liteon SOHW-1693S 16X DVD±RW Drive

Liteon's latest DVD RW drive is a pleasure to use. Not only is it fast, but it also supports Double Layer in both 'plus' and 'minus' formats, providing double the storage capacity of regular single-layered discs. The drive can only write these DL format discs at 4X speed, but can go as high as 16X for conventional DVD media. The old CD-R and CD-RW formats aren't ignored either; it can handle 48X and 24X speeds respectively for these media, allowing you to burn a complete disc in under three minutes.

The drive is a standard ATAPI/E-IDE internal optical drive that fits into the standard 5.25-inch bay of all desktop cases. The drive's front bezel is beige to fit most common cases, but can be swapped with a black bezel that is bundled with the drive.

The front panel doesn't provide many controls – so you cannot play audio CDs without any software assistance, but at least you're able to plug in a pair of headphones and adjust the volume level from here. The drive is bundled with Nero Express 6 and PowerDVD 5, both fairly respectable.

PC.com Verdict

A fast and reliable DVD writer with Double Layer format for longevity.



→ Details



Warranty: 1-year

Price: RM270

Contact:

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→ Test Results

Nero CD Speed

Data CD

Speed: Average: 36.28X,

Max: 47.81X

Seek Times: Random:

131ms, 1/3 Seek: 160ms,

Full: 236ms

- 48X CD-R, 16X DVD±R
- 24X CD-RW, 8X DVD±RW, 6X DVD-RW re-writing
- 4X DVD±R DL writing