MSDNAA Access Guide

Downloading & Installing MSDNAA Software

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I.   Accessing Software

Determining If Your Institution Subscribes To MSDNAA

The following steps will help you to determine if your educational institution is a subscriber to the MSDNAA program.

1. Navigate to the MSDNAA web site (http://www.msdnaa.net) and click the **School Member Search** link.
2. Choose US or International.
3. Enter your country (if applicable), city, and state.
4. Press **Find Schools**.
5. Check the list for your school's name. If your school's name does not appear in the list, double-check that the city you entered matches that of the school's address.

> **Tip: You can find anything MSDNAA-related at the program's web site:** http://www.msdnaa.net

Downloading From the ELMS Server

MSDNAA software is distributed by an ELMS (E-Academy License Management System) server. The MSDNAA administrator at your school has likely set up an ELMS server for you and other students in your department to use. This server takes care of the software and license distribution tasks so you don't have to.

Obtaining software through your ELMS server is simple – just navigate to the ELMS portal on your school's network, log in, choose the software you want, and download it!

Your MSDNAA administrator may also keep CD/DVD media copies of MSDNAA-licensed software for you to use. To obtain credentials to log in to the ELMS server, visit your department office and ask about MSDNAA access.

II.   Downloading Software

ISO Images - How Downloadable Software Is Packaged

Microsoft software from MSDNAA typically comes packaged in large, single files with .ISO or .IMG extensions. These files are "images" (exact copies) of the CD or DVD media on which the software would be shipped.

> *i* **The name ISO refers to the standardized file format used for disc images.**

Normally, there will be one ISO image per disc shipped in a retail package. Therefore, you may see some instances where two or more ISO downloads are required.

Beginning the Download Process

Since Microsoft software from MSDNAA often comes packaged in large ISO files (with file sizes on the order of gigabytes), downloading from the server with no download management system may cause your download to fail with no way to resume it. You may have experienced this if your connection timed out or if you ran out of disk space during a large download.

To address this issue, we use the File Transfer Manager tool to steadily deliver the software to your computer. In the event that your connection to the server is reset, the progress you made on the download will not be lost.

> **Tip: If you have an external hard drive, download the large ISO images to it to conserve valuable disk space on your PC.**

File Transfer Manager

If you are using Internet Explorer, you will be able to install this tool as an ActiveX control on the way to downloading the software.

> ⚠ **IMPORTANT: If you are using a browser other than Internet Explorer (including Netscape, Firefox, Opera, and others) you will need to manually install the File Transfer Manager tool.**
>
> 1. Navigate to the following URL.
>   http://transfers.one.microsoft.com/ftm/default.aspx
> 2. Click the Install link at the top. This link takes you here:
>   http://transfers.one.microsoft.com/ftm/default.aspx?target=install
> 3. Follow the link that reads "Click here to download MSI." When promoted to run or save, choose Run.
> 4. Run the MSI to install FTM. You may need to restart your browser after installation is complete.

Downloading MSDNAA Software with FTM

Now that FTM is installed, you can download software from your ELMS portal.

> ⚠ **WINDOWS VISTA USERS**
> If you are using Windows Vista, the built-in User Account Control feature will not allow you to download directly into system-owned folders. This means you must create your own directory for FTM downloads.
>
> To implement this workaround, follow these steps:
> 1. Create a folder on your hard drive where you would like to store FTM downloads.
> 2. Launch FTM.
> 3. Click Options.
> 4. Select the General tab.
> 5. In the section that reads "Files received will be placed in this folder", click Browse and select the download folder that you created in step #1.
> 6. Click OK.

When your download is complete, you will have the ISO file to deal with. At this point, you have two options: mount the image, or burn it to a CD or DVD.

III. Installing Software from ISO Images

Option 1: Burning a Disc

If you need to create a bootable disc, or just want to create a "hard copy" of the software you've downloaded, it is a good idea to burn the image to disc.

Depending on the size of the file, you can use a CD or a DVD. Most software available through MSDNAA is too large to fit on a CD, so using blank DVDs is good practice.

You need the following items to burn the ISO image to a disc:

- A CD/DVD drive capable of writing DVDs (look for a DVD/R or DVD/RW symbol)
- A blank, writeable DVD compatible with your DVD writer
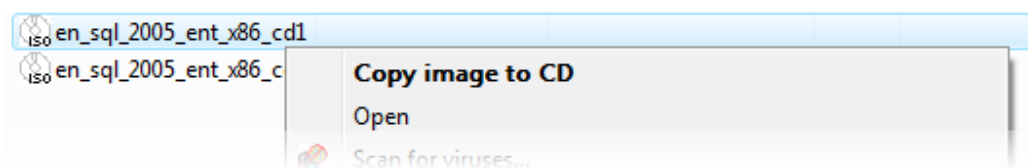- A software program capable of burning a disc from an image file

> **Most CD / DVD authoring programs provide the capability to burn a disc from an image. Some freeware tools are available, such as** ISO Recorder**. Manufacturers of popular programs with this capability include** Nero **and** Roxio**.**
>
> A list of other programs for managing ISO files can be found here:
> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_image

Using ISO Recorder to burn an image to disc

ISO Recorder is not a program you can launch, but an extension to the Windows shell. It allows you to right-click on an ISO image and choose Copy Image to CD, as shown below:

Selecting **Copy image to CD** will display a dialog titled CD Recording Wizard (or DVD Recording Wizard if it is a DVD ISO and you are running Vista). You can accept the defaults here and choose **Next**. Within a few minutes, your CD will be done!

Using Nero 7 Ultra Edition to burn an image to disc

1. Start Nero Burning ROM by navigating to **Start menu | Program Files | Nero 7 Ultra Edition | Data | Nero Burning ROM…**
2. On the **New Compilation** screen, press **Cancel.**
3. From the **Recorder** menu, choose **Burn Image…**
4. Browse to the ISO or IMG file you downloaded from MSDNAA and click **Open**.
5. Click **Burn** to start the burn process.

Voila! A Disc Copy of the Software

Now that you've burned your ISO to a DVD, you can treat it as if you bought the software in the store. Just insert it into your DVD drive and install as you would any other program.

> **Tip: By using the Burn ISO Image feature of your DVD authoring software, you can create bootable discs without worrying about special settings (in the case of operating systems, for example).**

Option 2: Mounting the ISO Image

If you don't want to go to the trouble of burning a disc, you can mount the ISO image using third-party tools.

> **IF YOU DOWNLOADED AN OPERATING SYSTEM…**
> … such as Windows Vista, XP, Windows Server, etc., do not attempt to mount the image in your current operating system to install it. A mounted drive is "remembered" by the operating system and the mounting tools, but will not exist between system reboots.
>
> If you are trying to install an operating system, always burn a DVD and make sure the BIOS is configured to attempt to boot from the DVD drive as part of the boot sequence.

Mounting is the process of temporarily creating a virtual drive on your computer with the contents of the ISO package loaded in it, as if you had inserted a DVD into your existing DVD drive. Third-party tools are required to mount an ISO image. Most common CD and DVD authoring tools will allow you to mount an ISO image, and many freeware utilities are available as well (see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_image)

Daemon Tools is a free and popular tool that allows you to mount ISO images. http://www.daemon-tools.cc/eng/downloads

Microsoft also has a free tool that you can use to mount an ISO image, available at the link below. http://download.microsoft.com/download/7/b/6/7b6abd84-7841-4978-96f5-bd58df02efa2/winxpvirtualcdcontrolpanel_21.exe

Using DAEMON Tools

Follow these steps to mount an image using DAEMON tools.

1. Download DAEMON Tools for your current operating system from the following link:
   http://www.daemon-tools.cc/eng/downloads
2. Install DAEMON Tools. A system reboot will be required to set up the virtual disc environment.
3. Reboot your computer when prompted to do so.
4. DAEMON Tools installation will continue after your operating system starts up. You may receive some warnings notifying you that the setup is trying to continue. Allow the setup to continue.
5. Choose the options you want to install. You need the core files and the shortcuts. The Search Bar is optional advertising which you can safely avoid installing.
6. From now on, you will be able to mount ISO images by right-clicking the DAEMON Tools icon in your taskbar and following this menu sequence:
   Virtual CD/DVD ROM | Device 0: [Letter:] | Mount image
   Notice what drive letter you are mounting to.
7. This will bring up a dialog box allowing you to browse to and open image files. Select the .ISO or .IMG file you downloaded from MSDNAA and click Open to mount the image.
8. You can now access the image as if it were a CD or DVD by going to **My Computer** (or **Computer** in Vista) and double-clicking, auto-running, or exploring the contents of the virtual drive (the drive letter is the same as the one you noted above).

Running Software from a Mounted ISO Image

Once your ISO file is mounted, you will see a new drive show up in your **My Computer** (XP) or **Computer** (Vista) pane. You can interact with this virtual drive as if you had a CD loaded in it – by right clicking it and choosing AutoPlay, or by Exploring it and choosing Setup.exe, and so forth.

When installing the software, make sure to follow any instructions on the virtual CD, especially readme files.

IV. Burning a Disc versus Mounting the Image

Are you unsure whether you should burn a disc or mount the image? Use the chart below to help you decide based on the purpose and type of the download.

Burn a Disc	Mount the Image
Operating Systems Servers and Tools Making Hard Copies Backing Up Software Drivers Utilities	Application Setup Discs (Office, Visual Studio, Games, Dev Tools, etc) Run-Once Applications

V. Where to Get Support

For support regarding your institution's ELMS server or downloads, contact your department or your department's MSDNAA administrator directly.

For product support, please visit http://support.microsoft.com.

The MSDNAA Forums are under construction, but check back soon for more information!

Tip: You can always find important program information and news at the MSDNAA website.

http://www.msdnaa.net