

Re: \_some\_ DVDs won't play

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*Source:* <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2006-02/msg01115.html>

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- *From:* Shawn Lamson <[slnj@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:slnj@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 09 Feb 2006 19:08:59 -0500
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On Wed, 08 Feb 2006 20:42:19 -0800  
Andrew Porter <[app@xxxxxxx](mailto:app@xxxxxxx)> wrote:

Troubles playing about half of the 12 \_Lord of the Rings\_ DVDs  
in a set purchased from amazon,  
and on its replacement,  
and on a third set set from Best Buy.

Drive: a Sony CD-RW, CRX320EE, ATAPI CD/DVD-ROM  
Using libdvdcss, from libdvdcss2\_1.2.8-1\_i386.deb  
xine-ui 0.99.3-1

Most of the bad discs just won't play.  
On some discs, the video has a lot of square holes in it.  
On some, the DVD makes xine crash.  
One disk even made X crash.

No trouble playing almost all other DVDs.  
A borrowed set of LOTR discs will play on all machines.  
Don't know when they were purchased, but not recently.

### QUESTIONS:

Are the failures in reading LOTR discs  
known to be deliberately caused by the manufacturer,  
perhaps in revenge for DeCSS?  
So that common equipment will play the DVDs,  
but not read them error-free?  
A sort of kludgy copy-protection scheme?

Just speculating ...

I was told recently that the cheapest DVD drives  
have the best success rates and the least failures.

Any experience from the list?  
Better to buy trash than quality,  
because trashy drives work better?

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All disks play just fine on a stand-alone DVD player connected to the TV set.

Have you tried them on a stand alone DVD player yet? That seems like the logical next step in troubleshooting, y'know, making sure that they weren't from a bad batch of disks at the factory. Yeah, I know. It's three seperate sets from at least two different vendors (you didn't say whether or not the replacement set was from the same seller on Amazon). But there's still a small chance that it could just be bad disks anyway.

have you tried anything besides xine? maybe vlc or mplayer? vlc is a pretty easy install, `#apt-get install vlc`

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Shawn Lamson  
`slnj@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx`

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