

SHARK FET User Manual

FET compressor | source checkpoint v0.1.5



WHAT IT IS

SHARK FET is an original FET-inspired compressor with two distinct audio revisions selected by clicking the Shark logo. Blue is rawer and earlier to saturate; Black is cleaner with different timing and knee.

QUICK START

Insert on a vocal, bass or drum track. Load START HERE - FET Punch, choose 4:1 and watch the GR meter. Raise Input to compress more, set Output for a fair comparison, then tune Attack and Release. Press the logo to compare Blue and Black.

SIGNAL PATH

Input gain and revision-specific color feed the compressor, then output-stage color. The high-pass sidechain filter affects detection only. Mix blends latency-aligned dry and processed paths. Gain Match supports comparison.

INPUT / OUTPUT

These controls use a classic attenuation-style printed scale. The number 24 corresponds to unity in the interface; hover or numeric entry gives relative gain in dB. Raising Input increases compression and color. Output restores level and can introduce output-stage color.

ATTACK / RELEASE

Both controls run from 1 (slow) to 7 (fast). Blue attack is designed around roughly 800 to 20 microseconds and release around 1100 to 50 ms; Black around 720 to 25 microseconds and 1250 to 80 ms. Release also responds to recent compression. These are Shark design values.

RATIO / ALL

Select 4:1, 8:1, 12:1, 20:1 or ALL. Higher ratios apply stronger compression. ALL changes the slope and adds aggressive color; start with a reduced Mix.

SC FILTER / MIX

SC Filter sweeps 20-400 Hz in the detector only. Raise it when kick or bass makes reduction pump. Mix ranges from aligned dry at 0% to processed at 100%.

STEREO LINK

On: both channels follow the louder detector for more stable stereo movement. Off: each channel compresses independently.

GAIN MATCH

A slow RMS-based comparison aid that can compensate within about +/-12 dB. Allow several seconds for the estimate to settle before choosing a revision or preset.

COMPRESSION OFF / BYPASS

COMP OFF disables gain reduction but retains color. BYPASS skips the complete effect. The dry and bypass paths remain latency-aligned.

METER MODES

GR shows gain reduction and moves left. IN reads input before Input gain. OUT reads final output. 0 VU corresponds to -18 dBFS RMS.

OVERSAMPLING

Use the OS menu for 1x, 2x, 4x or 8x. Default is 4x. Higher rates use more CPU and reduce nonlinear aliasing. Rate changes crossfade; the plugin reports a constant 12-sample latency.

PRESETS

Click the preset name for a searchable browser. There are 60 factory starting points. Favorites and user save, rename and delete are available. Factory presets are starting points and await full listening validation.

A/B/C AND UNDO/REDO

Store and compare three working states. Undo and Redo keep an edit history; revision and oversampling follow saved state and session recall.

EDITING GESTURES

Shift-drag for fine adjustment, double-click a control to reset, and right-click for numeric entry. The preset browser closes on outside click or Escape. Use the menu for zoom, quick manual, About and license information.

VOCAL SETUP

Select Black, 4:1, medium Attack and a Release that recovers between phrases. Raise Input for controlled peaks and use Output to compare fairly. Try Blue for more attitude.

PARALLEL DRUMS

Select Blue and ALL, use a fast Release, drive Input, then bring Mix down until the dry transient and compressed body sit together.

BASS SETUP

Begin at 4:1 or 8:1 and adjust Attack to preserve the front of the note. Use SC Filter when strong subs over-trigger reduction.

MIX BUS CAUTION

Use gentle reduction, Stereo Link and the detector filter. SHARK FET is a compressor; it is not a brickwall limiter or final true-peak ceiling.

INSTALLATION STATUS

v0.1.5 is a JUCE source checkpoint, not a signed customer installer. The Mac AU/VST3 build and host checks for this exact version have not been completed in the supplied source notes. Customer installation, authorization and platform requirements will be published with the verified release.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If no gain reduction appears, confirm COMP OFF and BYPASS are off, raise Input and select GR. For excess pumping, raise SC Filter or slow Release. For high CPU, lower OS. If a preset sounds too loud, reduce Output and compare with Gain Match.

CREDITS

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