



Techivation M-Compressor 2

User Manual



M-Compressor 2

Sidechain HP 63 Hz Ext. Sidechain On A | B copy to B

Thresholds

Down -18.0 dB
Up -18.0 dB
Gate -26.0 dB

Threshold Control: Tilt | **Shelves** Shaping 50% ?

Low 200 Hz | +12.0 dB Slope 50% +12.0 dB | 3.0 kHz High

-9.7 dB +4.4 dB -9.2 dB

Input Diff Output

diff sidechain

Compression Amount 70% Intensity

Down Ratio 8.0:1 Up Ratio 8.0:1 Gate Range 12.0 dB

Character 0% Stereo Link

Attack 20 ms Release 1.00 s Punch 50%

Mix Assist

Smash	Punch
Bright	Roomy

Analyse

Techivation 100% Mix | AUTO -3.2 dB Make Up

Techivation 100% Mix | AUTO -3.2 dB Make Up

8.0:1 Down Ratio 8.0:1 Up Ratio 12.0 dB Gate Range 20 ms Attack 1.00 s Release 50% Punch Analyse



Techivation M-Compressor 2

Overview

M-Compressor 2 is a spectral audio plug-in that gives you unprecedented control over the dynamics and tone by combining downward and upward compression, gating, and frequency-dependent processing. And the intelligent Mix Assistant turns this depth into a single control guided by your creative intent.

Three dynamics processors in one

M-Compressor 2 gives you total control over the dynamic range by combining downward compression, upward compression, and gating (new for version 2).

When the signal rises above the "**Down**" threshold, it is attenuated to tame loud spikes. Between the "**Up**" and "**Gate**" thresholds, the signal is boosted to bring softer details forward.

Anything falling below the "**Gate**" threshold is turned down, so compression never lifts up background noise or bleed.



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True spectral compression

M-Compressor 2 is a true spectral compressor. Every frequency can receive a different amount of compression, without the band-splitting of multi-band compressors.

There are two ways to control how compression is applied across the spectrum.

First, you shape the spectral threshold directly.

With the new “Shelves” mode, you choose to apply more or less compression to low and high frequencies. A dual shelving filter with “Frequency”, “Gain”, and “Slope” reshapes the spectral threshold, controlling where the compressor leans in and where it eases off.

For faster tone shaping, Tilt mode shifts compression across the spectrum in a single move. Quick, musical, and easy to dial in.

Second, the new Shaping control refines the spectral threshold dynamically.

It continuously analyses your audio and makes micro-level adjustments, relaxing muddy build-ups and harsh resonances. The result is a more balanced and open sound.



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Intent-driven intelligent assistant

M-Compressor 2 pioneers our new vision for the intelligent Mix Assistant. It ties all plug-in parameters together into a single intuitive control.

After analysing your audio, Mix Assist sets up 12 distinct compression styles tailored to your music. Choose 4 of these styles and seamlessly blend between them, unlocking infinite sonic possibilities driven by your creative intent.

The Style blend directly controls the plug-in parameters, and you can see the exact changes it is making.

The new Mix Assist is designed to follow your lead. When you manually adjust the parameters, these changes are incorporated into the Mix Assist Styles. Blending the Styles will always push the sound towards your desired feel, while respecting any adjustments you made.

Feature-packed

On top of these exciting new features, M-Compressor 2 introduces a reworked Punch control for impactful and snappy attacks.

It is also packed with useful features like parallel blend, stereo link, sidechain highpass filter, external sidechain for downward compression, and auto-gain.



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Features

- Downward Threshold
- Upward Threshold
- Gate Threshold
- Downward Ratio
- Upward Ratio
- Gate Range
- Intensity
- Release
- Punch
- Stereo Link
- Sidechain Highpass
- External Sidechain Toggle
- Parallel Mix
- Attack
- Spectral Threshold Shaping
- Manual Threshold Control Mode
- Tilt Mode Centre Frequency
- Tilt Mode Slope
- Shelves Mode Low Frequency
- Shelves Mode Low Gain
- Shelves Mode High Frequency
- Shelves Mode High Gain
- Shelves Mode Slope
- Auto-Gain
- Make Up Gain
- Difference & Sidechain Audition
- Mix Assist Style Blender



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Features

Thresholds

Regular compressors adjust the overall signal level based on its relationship to the threshold value. Instead of the overall signal level, M-Compressor works with the signal spectrum. Individual frequencies are compressed based on their levels relative to the spectral threshold curve. The shape of the spectral threshold is determined by the spectral contour of the input signal, and it dynamically changes with the input.

Down Threshold sets the level of the downward spectral threshold curve. When the signal rises above the downward threshold, it is attenuated according to the “**Down Ratio**” parameter. Downward compression is the traditional compression method for shaping dynamics and loudness of the track.





Techivation M-Compressor 2

Features

Thresholds

Up Threshold sets the level of the upward spectral threshold curve. When the signal falls below the upward threshold, it is boosted according to the “**Up Ratio**” parameter. Upward compression is perfect for bringing quiet details forward, enhancing the ambience, or achieving aggressive over-the-top compression.

Gate Threshold sets the level of the gating spectral threshold curve. When the signal falls below the gating threshold, it is no longer boosted by the upward compression and can be further attenuated according to “**Gate Range**” parameter.

“**Gate Threshold**” parameter can be used both to prevent background noise from being brought up by the compression, and to limit the range on which upward compression is allowed to operate.





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Features

Compression Amount panel

Down Ratio controls the strength of downward compression. It ranges from 1.0:1, when downward compression is disabled, to 20.0:1, when downward attenuation is the strongest.

Up Ratio controls the strength of upward compression. It ranges from 1.0:1, when upward compression is disabled, to 20.0:1, when upward boost is the strongest.

Gate Range sets the maximum amount of attenuation that is applied by gating. When set to 0.0 dB, gating is disabled.

Intensity controls how soft or hard the compression character is. Lower settings use softer knee with a limited downward attenuation range. Higher settings use harder knee and the full downward attenuation range.





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Features

Character panel

Attack controls how quickly the compressor responds to an increase in signal level. Faster attack settings result in tighter controlled peaks, but softened impact. Slower attack allows more of the transient through, resulting in snappier sound.

Release controls how long it takes to stop compressing once the signal level has subsided.





Techivation M-Compressor 2

Features

Character panel

Punch allows you to shape the transients by controlling the attack response of the compressor. Low “Punch” settings result in softening of the transients, while higher values emphasise the original transients that are let through during the compressor attack.

Stereo Link controls how M-Compressor 2 responds to stereo signals. When it's set to zero, the stereo channels are treated completely independently (dual-mono compression). At 100%, the spectral thresholds for the stereo channels are linked together, preserving the original stereo image after compression (stereo compression). Values between 0 and 100% allow you to find the right level of channel independence when compressing stereo signals.





Techivation M-Compressor 2

Features

Spectrum Analyser panel

The spectrum analyser in M-Compressor 2 visualises the input signal spectrum, the downward and upward spectral thresholds, gate threshold, and the spectral adjustments performed by the compressor.

The input spectrum is shown as a white line. The downward compression threshold is shown in gold, the upward compression threshold is shown in blue, and the gate threshold is shown in grey.

When the signal rises above the downward threshold or falls below the gate threshold, it is attenuated. The amount of the attenuation is shown in red.

When the signal falls below the upward threshold, it is boosted. The amount of boost is shown in green.





Techivation M-Compressor 2

Features

Spectrum Analyser panel

Hover over the (?) icon in the top right corner of the spectrum visualiser to bring up a quick help sheet explaining the curves displayed by the spectrum analyser.

You can change the display range of the spectrum analyser by dragging up or down on the decibel values shown on the right edge of the visualiser.

The spectrum analyser panel includes controls that allow shaping the spectral thresholds and determining how compression is applied across the spectrum

Threshold Control Mode chooses whether to use a simple Tilt filter or a pair of Shelving filters for manually shaping the spectral thresholds.





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Features

Tilt mode controls

Hovering over the spectrum analyser displays the current spectral tilt curve, and lets you set both “Tilt Centre” and “Tilt Amount” by dragging the visualiser curve.

Tilt Centre controls the centre frequency around which the spectral thresholds are tilted.

Tilt Amount sets the decibel-per-octave slope of the spectral threshold tilt.





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Features

Shelves mode controls

“Shelves” mode applies a low and a high shelving filters to the spectral thresholds. Hovering over the spectrum analyser displays the current shelving filter curve. You can drag the shelf curve to simultaneously set “Frequency” and “Gain”.

Shelf Frequency sets the transition frequency of the shelving filter. “Low” filter will affect the frequencies below this value, and “High” filter will affect frequencies above.

Shelf Gain controls the amount of boost or attenuation of the shelving filter.

Shelf Slope controls the steepness of both “Low” and “High” shelving filters.





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Features

Mix Assist panel

The next generation of **Mix Assist** allows to set all of the plug-in parameters using a single intuitive control.

To enable **Mix Assist**, play a loud part of the track and click **“Analyse”**. M-Compressor 2 will capture 3.5 seconds of the audio, analyse it, and set up custom tailored compression Styles for your track.

Four most relevant Styles will be automatically assigned to the **Mix Assist Style Blend pad**. Moving the blend between the selected Styles will adjust all plug-in parameters.

You can right-click any of the four slots to bring up the menu containing all available compression styles.





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Features

Mix Assist panel

Mix Assist is designed to follow your lead. When you manually adjust the parameters, these changes are incorporated into the Mix Assist Styles. The “Reset Manual Adjustments” button in the top right corner of the Mix Assist panel becomes active any time you manually adjust the parameters.

Blending the Styles will push the sound towards your desired feel, while always respecting any adjustments you made.

If you want to revert to the pure Mix Assist Style blend and remove any of the manual adjustments, click the “Reset Manual Adjustments” button in the top right corner of the Mix Assist panel.





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Features

Sidechain Highpass

Positions of spectral thresholds in M-Compressor 2 are determined by the sidechain input level (internal or external, when 'Ext. Sidechain' is enabled).

The **Sidechain HP** parameter gives you control over how much the spectral thresholds react to low frequencies of the sidechain. Increasing 'Sidechain HP' value results in low frequencies having less impact on the thresholds. This is achieved by applying a highpass filter to the sidechain signal. You can audition this effect by enabling the "sidechain" output mode.





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Features

External Sidechain

Ext. Sidechain switch allows to drive the compression by an external signal. Make sure to refer to your DAW manual for information on how to set up the external sidechain input to the plug-in.

When “Ext. Sidechain” is enabled, the downward spectral threshold level is controlled but the sidechain input level. The shape of the spectral threshold, however, is still determined by the main input.

Parallel compression

Mix control allows to use M-Compressor 2 for parallel compression. A common scenario would be to set up M-Compressor 2 for an aggressive sound, and then blend it with the original signal by lowering the “Mix”. The “Make Up” gain is applied to the compressed signal before the “Mix”, so you can match the “before” and “after” levels for seamless parallel blending.





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Features

Auto-gain and Make Up

To make level matching easier while you tweak the M-Compressor 2 settings, it offers the **Auto Gain** mode. When enabled, “**Auto Gain**” continuously measures the signal levels before and after compression, and automatically applies the appropriate make up gain. Since “**Auto Gain**” is based on measurement, it might need a moment to adjust to quick parameter changes.

Important: “**Auto Gain**” continuously adjusts the make up gain, so it is recommended to only enable it while you are tweaking the compressor settings.

When you disable “**Auto Gain**”, it sets the “**Make Up**” gain parameter to the latest measured value.

Make Up controls the amount of clean gain applied to the compressed signal.





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Features

Output modes

Diff lets you listen to the difference between the processed and the original signals.

Sidechain lets you listen to the sidechain input of the compressor.





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Features

A | B Comparison

The A|B buttons provide a convenient way to compare different options and find the optimal setting for your audio processing needs. With just a click, you can easily switch between two different versions of the same processing chain and compare the results. Moreover, the "Copy A to B" and "Copy B to A" functions enable you to quickly test small tweaks and adjustments by copying the settings from one version to the other and comparing their effects.

By using the A|B buttons in conjunction with the "Copy" functions, you can efficiently assess subtle variations in your processing and make informed decisions on the best approach to take. This streamlined workflow saves you time and effort, allowing you to focus on the creative aspects of your mix without getting bogged down in technical details.





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Features

Plug-in Menu

A quick menu of useful features:

- Undo
- Redo
- Presets
- Save Preset As...
- Load Preset...
- Open Preset Folder
- Default Preset
- GUI Scale
- Start Guided Tour
- Show/Hide Tooltips
- [Your email]/Sign in
- About
- Support





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Features

Undo/Redo

The M-Compressor 2 plug-in comes equipped with the handy feature of built-in "Undo" and "Redo" options, providing added peace of mind while working on your audio processing. With these functions, you can easily revert to previous settings or redo changes that were made in error, saving time and eliminating the stress of potentially losing valuable adjustments.

The "Undo" and "Redo" options allow you to experiment with different settings and configurations without the fear of permanently altering your audio. Additionally, this feature enhances your workflow by providing an efficient way to backtrack and explore alternative processing paths, enabling you to make more informed decisions in your audio production.





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Features

Tooltips

M-Compressor 2 features a handy "tooltips" option that you can enable or disable from the plugin's menu. When this option is enabled, you can see a brief description of each part of the user interface by simply holding your mouse over that particular section. Tooltips are an excellent way to quickly learn about the various controls and settings in the plugin, making it easier to navigate and use the interface effectively.

They can provide helpful information about each parameter, including its function, range, and how it affects the audio signal. Enabling the tooltips option is a great way to speed up your workflow and make it easier to work with the M-Compressor 2 plugin. If you're not sure what a particular control does, simply hover your mouse over it to get a quick and informative tooltip.





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Features

GUI Scale

The interface scaling feature in M-Compressor 2 allows you to customise the size of the GUI to suit your preferences and optimise your workflow. With a range of scaling options available, from 50% to 150%, you can personalise the interface to match your visual and working style. One of the great things about this feature is that the visual quality of the plug-in remains consistent, regardless of the scale you choose. This ensures that the interface remains clear and legible, even when scaled up or down to fit your preferred viewing size. Additionally, the interface scaling feature in M-Compressor 2 is optimised for high-end quality monitors, including retina displays, ensuring that the plug-in looks great and performs reliably on a variety of devices.





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Features

Presets

The plug-in offers the convenience of saving and loading your own custom presets using the menu located in the top-right corner.

This feature enables you to quickly access and apply a variety of settings tailored to specific mixing needs, streamlining your workflow and providing a consistent starting point for your audio processing tasks.

Additionally, by saving your own custom presets, you can easily recall your preferred settings across different projects, ensuring a cohesive and efficient approach to your audio production.





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Compatibility

Plugin formats: VST, VST3, AU, AAX.

Platforms supported: Mac OS X 10.15 (Catalina) or higher Intel processors, and Apple Silicon Chips.
Windows 7 and up, 32 and 64 bits.

DAWs supported: Ableton Live, Logic Pro, Avid Protools, FL Studio One, Cubase, Nuendo, Reaper, and other major DAW softwares on the market.

Activation

M-Compressor 2 requires a purchased license from our website, to get activated according to our [terms and conditions](#). As soon as you purchase a license from us, you'll automatically have your Techivation account activate the plug-in for you, after you sign- in to the plug-in. Everyone with one purchased license can use the plug-in on a maximum of two machines at the same time.

Support

For any support inquiries check out techivation.com/support

Check out techivation.com/terms-conditions to learn more about the rights.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us via email. info@techivation.com or techivation@gmail.com

Installation

If you purchase a **M-Compressor 2** license, you can sign in to the plug-in to activate, and use it for a lifetime.

A software download is supplied with your sign-up/purchase, however you can always go to Techivation.com for the latest software updates.

After downloading, unzip the file and select either Mac or PC installer depending on your system. (Warning: don't run the PC file on a Mac and vice-versa).

- Mac: Double click on the PKG installer and follow the instructions
- PC/Windows: Extract the file content. Double click on the setup file and follow the instructions



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Uninstall Locations

macOS

AU: /Library/Audio/Plug-ins/Components/

VST: /Library/Audio/Plug-ins/VST/

VST3: /Library/Audio/Plug-ins/VST3/

AAX: /Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins/

Other data: ~/Library/Application Support/Techivation

Windows

VST: Custom path from installer

VST3: \Program Files\Common Files\VST3\

or \Program files(x86)\Common Files\VST3

AAX: \Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins\

Other data: C:\ProgramData\Techivation "Note: this folder is hidden so you need to change your settings to see the hidden files first."