Techivation T-Compressor Mk2

User Manual

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Overview

Techivation **T-Compressor Mk2** is a zero-latency serial and parallel compression toolkit, rebuilt from the ground up. This upgraded version of T-Compressor features improved sound quality, refined dynamic response, and a redesigned user interface for a smoother, more intuitive workflow.

The brand new sound engine offers reworked **Warm**, **Crisp**, **Thick** saturation modes with more character, as well as expanded controls: **Attack**, **Release**, **Ratio**, **Knee**, **Stereo Link**, plus **Mid/Side** mode.

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Features

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- Knee
- Attack
- Release
- Oversampling
- Clean/Crisp/Warm/Thick
- Stereo Link
- Mix
- Sidechain HP
- Make Up Gain
- Global Mix

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- Latency display
- Mid/Side mode
- Audition (Filter &
- Level meters
- Internal On-Off Switch
- Internal Menu
- Presets
- Scaleable GUI
- A/B Switch
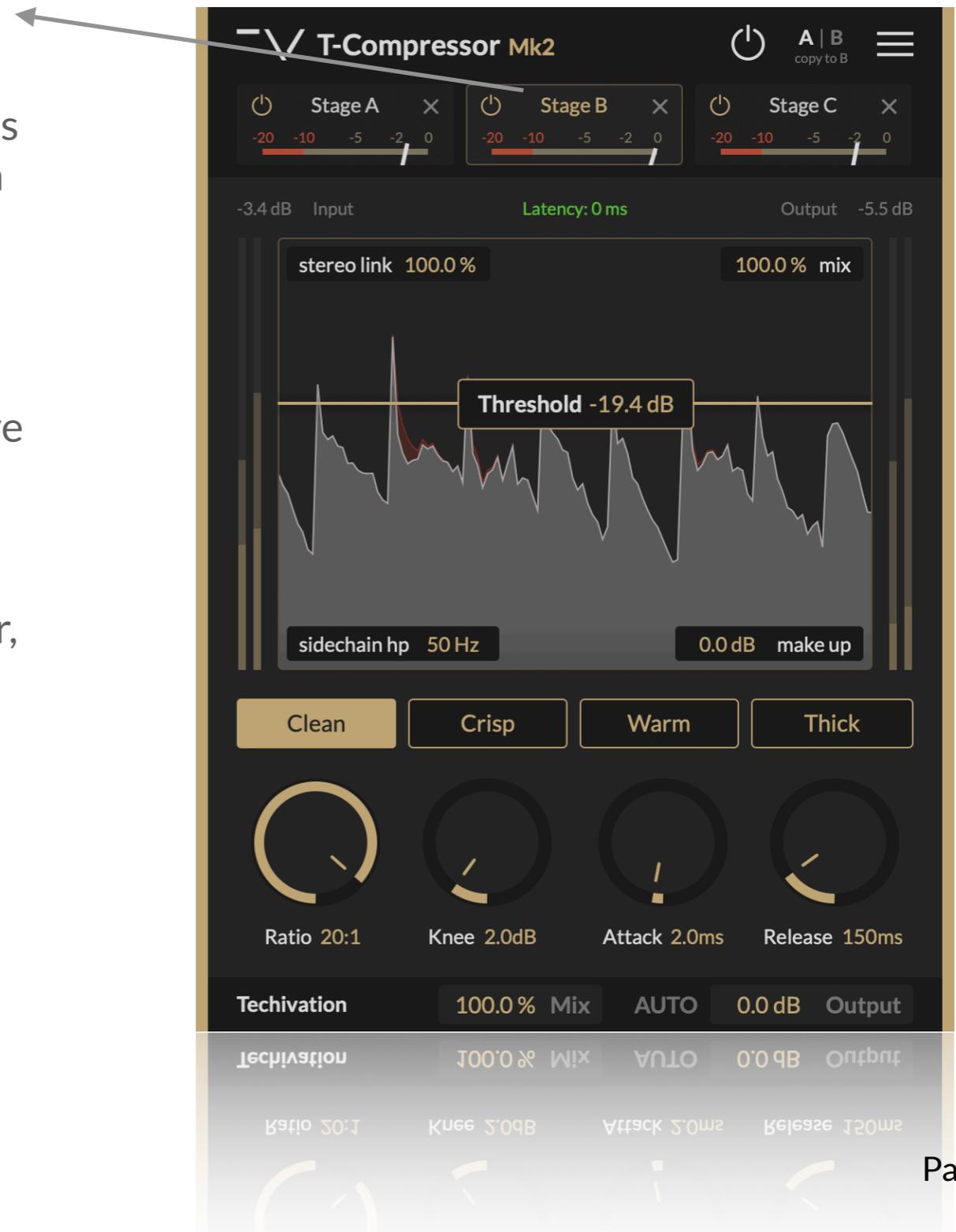- Undo-Redo Options
- Show/Hide Tooltips

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Compressor Stage Tabs

The Mk2 update introduces compressor **Stage** Tabs for seamless serial compression workflow. You can create up to 3 compressor **Stages**, organised like browser tabs. Each **Stage** processes the audio in series, while also offering per-**Stage** parallel mix control. You can effortlessly experiment with different processing chains by reordering the active **Stages**, with consistent automation and **Undo** for every change.

Each **Stage** tab features a gain reduction VU-meter, making it easy to see how much compression each **Stage** is applying at a glance.

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Threshold

Threshold sets how much level can pass through the Compressor Stage before compression is triggered. Any audio above the Threshold will be compressed according to the Ratio value. Lower Threshold level results in stronger compression.

Waveform display

The **waveform display** provides real-time visual feedback of the **Stage** input and output, helping you monitor how compression is applied over time. The output signal is shown is grey, while the amount of gain reduction is shown in red. You can use the waveform display to precisely set the Threshold level so that compression is applied only to the parts of the signal you want. The display also visualises the effect of other parameters like Ratio, Knee, Attack, and Release, so you can fine-tune them with confidence.

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Ratio

The **Ratio** control determines how much gain reduction the Compressor Stage applies when the signal exceeds the Threshold level. For example, a Ratio of 4:1 means that for every 4dB the signal rises above the Threshold, the Compressor Stage will allow only 1dB through.

Knee

Knee controls how gradually the Compressor Stage starts applying compression as the signal approaches the Threshold level. Higher Knee settings (Soft Knee) allows for smoother and more gradual compression than lower Knee values (Hard Knee).

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Attack

Attack time controls how long it takes for the compressor to kick in after a signal exceeds the Threshold.

Release

Release time determines how long the compressor will take to relax the compression once the signal has fallen below the Threshold. The longer the Release time, the longer the compressor keeps the output gain reduced, and the smoother the sound.

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Compression characters

Each compressor Stage offers one of four compression characters: **Clean**, **Crisp**, **Warm**, or **Thick**.

- **Clean** mode disables all colouration and saturation for completely transparent compression.

- **Crisp** mode enables brighter tube-inspired compression character.

- **Warm** mode enables darker tape-inspired compression character.

- **Thick** mode enables deep and rich signature Loudener compression character.

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Stereo Link

Stereo Link controls how the Compressor Stage responds to stereo signals. At 0%, stereo channels are processed independently. At 100%, both channels experience the same level of gain reduction.

Mix

Mix controls the parallel blend (wet/dry) of the Stage output and Stage input signals. The per-Stage parallel Mix control complements the serial compression chain of T-Compressor Mk2 to offer limitless creative combinations.

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Sidechain HP

Sidechain HP (High-pass filter) prevents the lower frequencies from triggering the Compressor Stage. This control helps you limit how much low frequency components of the track affect the overall amount of gain reduction, making it easy to achieve balanced compression.

Make Up Gain

Make Up Gain sets the amount of clean gain applied to the output of the Compressor Stage.

Global Mix

Global **Mix** control is a workflow shortcut allowing you to blend the output of all active Compressor Stages with the unprocessed input using a single control.

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Output Gain

Output Gain controls the amount of clean gain applied to the output of T-Compressor Mk2.
When you enable the 'Auto Gain' option, the plug-in intelligently sets the output gain, taking the guesswork out of the process and ensuring matched loudness with minimal user intervention.

Auto Gain

To make level matching easier while you tweak the T-Compressor Mk2 settings, it offers the **Auto Gain** mode.

When enabled, Auto Gain continuously measures the input and output loudness, and automatically applies the appropriate gain to compensate. Since Auto Gain is based on measurement, it might need a moment to adjust to quick parameter changes.

Important: Auto Gain continuously adjusts the Output gain, so it is recommended to only enable it while you are tweaking the plug-in settings. When you disable Auto Gain, it sets the Output gain parameter to the latest measured value.

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Oversampling

The **Oversampling** option in the main menu sets the oversampling amount for T-Compressor Mk2 compression and saturation. Oversampling reduces aliasing by internally processing audio at a higher sample rate than the host application, with the capability to reach up to 8 times the original sample rate. You can choose from four settings to achieve the desired balance between performance and audio quality: "Off (1X)", "Good (2X)", "Great (4X)", or "Ultra (8X)".

When Oversampling is set to "Off (1x)", T-Compressor Mk2 operates with 0 latency. Higher Oversampling options require a small amount of latency.

Mid/Side

The **Mid/Side** option available from T-Compressor Mk2 main menu lets you process the centre and side signals of a stereo track individually.

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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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Plug-in Menu

A quick menu of useful features:

- Undo
- Redo
- Oversampling
- Enable Mid/Side
- Presets
- Save Preset As...
- Load Preset...
- Open Preset Folder
- Default Preset
- GUI Scale
- Show/Hide Tooltips
- [Your email]/Sign in
- About
- Support

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Undo/Redo

The T-Compressor mk2 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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Tooltips

T-Compressor mk2 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 T-Compressor mk2 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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GUI Scale

The interface scaling feature in T-Compressor mk2 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 T-Compressor mk2 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.
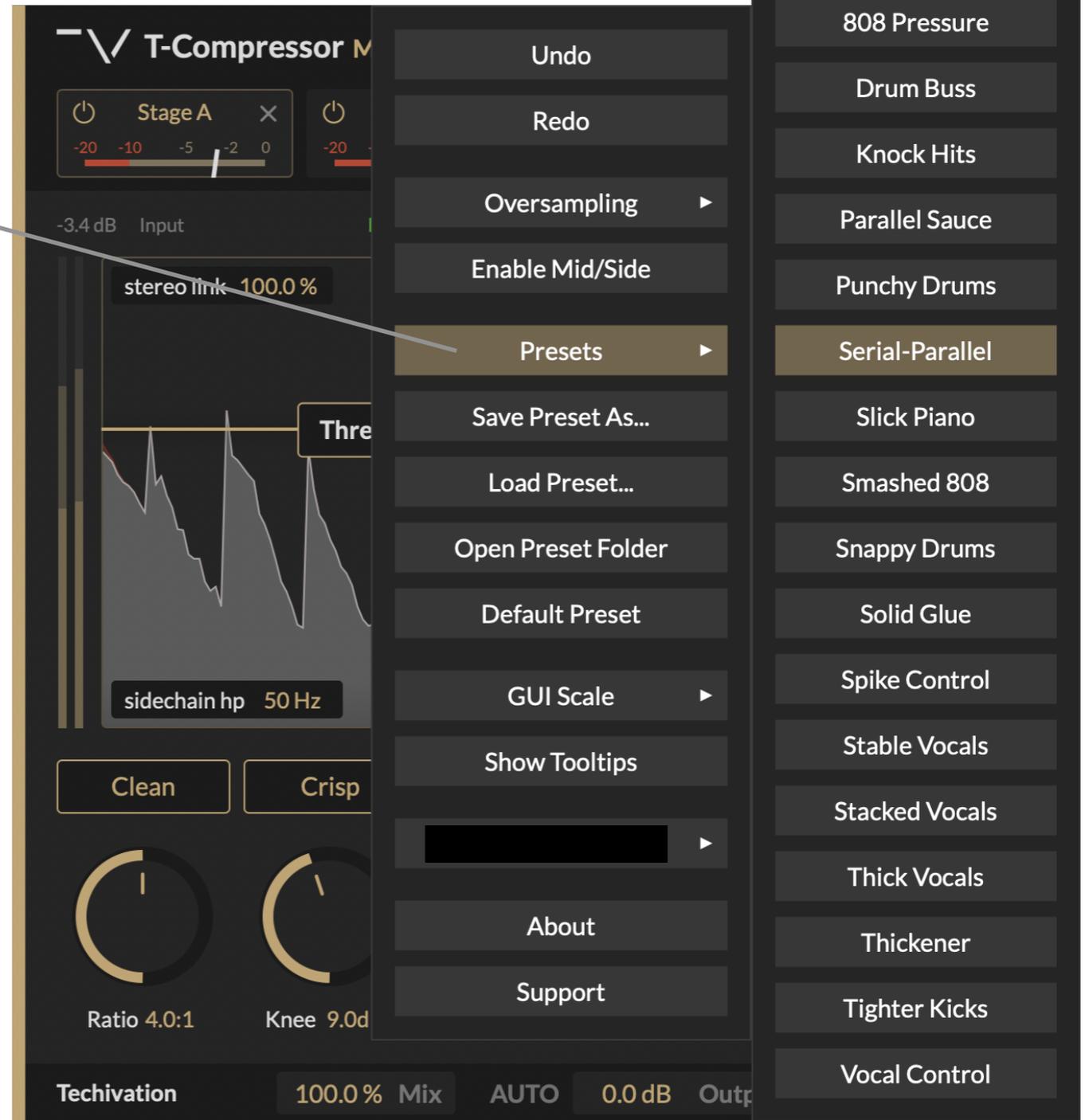
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Presets

The plug-in offers the convenience of loading pre-existing presets as well as creating and saving 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

T-Compressor mk2 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 T-Compressor mk2 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

MAC OS
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."