

the new image of sound

NFuse Manual



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1. Introduction

NFuse merges the best of both worlds, featuring classic analog warmth with modern precision from two of the most renowned bus processors on the market.

With each module being interchangeable, you have complete control over the Saturation, EQ, Compression, and Stereo Width of your mix.

With a wide range of tonal options between the units, you aren't just getting two flavors of the same thing, but two powerhouse units in one.



System Requirements / Formats

- Mac 64bit / M1 Native: VST3, AU, AAX
 - Windows 64bit: VST3, AAX
- 1 GHz Intel Dual Core Processor or AMD equivalent (PC)

- 4GB of RAM

- Mac OS X 10.7 or higher, 10.14 or higher recommended
 - Windows 7 & Above
 - Screen res: 1024 x 768 or higher
 - 64 bit DAW support only

1. Setup

1.1 Installation

For Mac users: The included installer should install the plugin's VST, VST3, AU, and AAX formats automatically, you may need to restart your DAW to see the plugin listed.

For Windows users: You will have to manually move the plugin formats into their respective folders. Common locations for each format are as follows:

VST: C:\Program Files\VstPlugins C:\Program Files\Steinberg\VstPlugins C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST2 C:\Program Files\Common Files\Steinberg\VST2 VST3: C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3 AAX: C:\Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins

If after restarting your DAW, you still don't see the plugin listed, check your DAW's plugin folder settings, and be sure that is in the proper location for your software.

2. Controls

Presets opens the preset menu with multiple options for presets loading, saving and viewing.

Signal Chain controls the order of the 3 main fx. use the arrows to rearrange the modules. Width will always be last in chain.

OVSMP sets the oversampling rate for NFUSE, its default is Off, but it can go up to 16x. Oversampling increases CPU usage but can reduce aliasing.

Undo and redo can move back and forward in the history of tweaks you've made to the controls.

Settings access the GUI resize control which changes the size of the window from 75% to 150%. Defaults to 100%. As well as check the version number and info on the plugin

NF Mode Link Engaging this button links all the N and F modules so that you can switch through both full mix bus processors

Overall features and tips

N/F switch will change the base for the mix bus processor, with N and F both having different box tone / harmonics as well as extra in and out gain on the F side.

Keeping the n/f mode link engaged will swap all modules based on the main n/f switch.

The stereo width modules will stay in 'stereo' no matter what mode is selected (dual mono, stereo, mid side) as the width module utilizes mid side processing.

Clicking on either the LM / RS or the letter button located in the input section will change the controls based on which mode you're in.

No matter what section you're in, you can swap any of the modules to N or F by using the toggle switches at the top.

N SECTION

Input Section: N/F Switch: Selects between the 2 different mix bus processors (if NF Link button is engaged it will switch all modules)

Gain Knob: Controls the input gain level; turn clockwise to increase and counter-clockwise to decrease (Range of -12 db to +12db)

HPF Switch: Engages the High Pass Filter, which removes frequencies below the set point.

Saturation (SAT):

RED: Enhances upper midrange and high-frequency harmonics for added clarity and brilliance.

Dark: Boosts lower and low-midrange harmonics for increased warmth and presence.

ZNR Drive: Incorporates a soft-clip circuit for harmonic enrichment as the signal nears clipping levels.

Equalizer (EQ):

Gain Control: Adjusts the level with up to +/- 9dB of boost or cut for each band

LF EQ Band: Corner frequency can be set from 30Hz to 240Hz. It is adept at shaping the low-end, either by adding substance and power or by reducing boominess.

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HF EQ Band: Corner frequency is variable from 3kHz to 24kHz. This allows for nuanced adjustments from the upper midrange to the highest audible frequencies, enhancing sparkle and definition.

Compressor (COMP):

Ratio Control: Offers a choice of 2:1 for gentle compression or 5:1 for more aggressive compression effects.

High Pass Side-Chain Filter: With a frequency range from 20Hz to 350Hz, it allows low frequencies to pass through without triggering the compressor, focusing the compression on mid to high frequencies.

Blend Control: Facilitates parallel compression by mixing the compressed signal with the dry source.

Threshold Control: Ranges from 0dBu to +24dBu with an LED indicator for gain reduction.

Release Control: Adjustable from 100ms to 1.5s, allowing for a range of effects from pronounced "pumping" to smooth leveling.

Makeup Gain: Provides 20dB of gain, useful for balancing levels post-compression and for driving additional harmonic content through the Sat section.

Stereo Width (WIDTH):

Width Control: Allows for expansion of the stereo field with a focus on mids and highs while keeping the low end centered.

High-Pass Filter for Width: Range from 50Hz to 800Hz, tailoring the spread of frequencies for a balanced stereo image.

FSection

Input Section:

N/F Switch: N/F Switch: Selects between the 2 different mix bus processors (if NF Link button is engaged it will switch all modules)

Gain Knob: Adjust the input level from -24dB to +24dB.

HPF Switch: Activate the High Pass Filter to cut off frequencies below the selected point(Includes small reso bump).

Saturation Section:

Drive Knob: Control the amount of non-linear saturation to add strength and cohesion to the mix.

Density Knob: Fine-tune the saturation effect. Lower settings emphasize even-order harmonics, adding richness, while higher settings emphasize odd-order harmonics, reducing harmonic content but increasing clarity.

Equalizer Section:

Low EQ Knob: Select the corner frequency for low-frequency adjustments between 30Hz and 90Hz.

High EQ Knob: Choose the corner frequency for high-frequency adjustments between 8kHz and 20kHz.

LF Gain and HF Gain Knobs: Continuously adjustable from -9dB to +9dB with a center detent at 0dB.

Compressor Section:

Threshold Knob: Set the level at which the compressor begins to engage.

Makeup Gain Knob: Adjust the output gain to compensate for gain reduction due to compression.

Ratio Knob: Select compression ratio; from light (2:1) to heavy (10:1).

Attack Knob: Determine how quickly the compressor reacts to a signal exceeding the threshold.

Release Knob: Control how quickly the compressor stops reducing gain after the signal drops below the threshold.

GR Meter: Display the amount of gain reduction currently being applied.

Stereo Imager Section:

Width Knob: Adjust the balance between mid and side signals to widen or narrow the stereo image.

Space Knob: Boost or cut bass frequencies in the side signal for depth effects.

4. Troubleshooting

- 1. Be sure to re-read through the **Setup** section of this manual just in case.
- 2. Check the **Kiive Audio FAQ** to see if your issue is already listed.
- 3. If not, contact **support@kiiveaudio.com** with your plugin version, the details of the issue, and the steps to reproduce it.