

The EQ

Eight-band graphical equalizer



User Manual

English | Manual edition 1.0 | September 2026

Mac + Windows | AU on Mac, VST3 and AAX Native
AAX DSP edition for compatible Pro Tools HDX systems

01 / START HERE

Meet The EQ

The EQ is a static parametric equalizer with up to eight freely placed bands. Edit frequency and gain directly on the curve, choose bell, shelf or cut filters and use band audition to hear the area you are adjusting. The Native edition also shows the input spectrum.



Your first session

1. Insert The EQ on the track or bus you want to shape. Start from a flat curve with no active bands.
2. Click near the displayed EQ response curve to create a band, then drag its point to set frequency and gain. Clicking empty background away from the curve does not add a band.
3. Select the band and choose its filter type in the top bar. Adjust Q with the horizontal handles or the numeric field.
4. Use S briefly to audition the selected frequency area. Turn audition off before judging the full mix or exporting.
5. Compare using the host bypass at a comfortable listening level. Save useful settings as a host preset.

Applies to The EQ 0.3.47. Manual edition 1.0.

02 / REFERENCE

Controls and behaviour

Ranges describe available control values, not recommended settings.

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	HOW TO USE IT
Band slots	Up to 8	Each bell, shelf, low cut or high cut uses one slot. Delete a band to make its slot available again.
Filter type	Bell / Low Shelf / High Shelf / Lo Cut / Hi Cut	Bell changes a frequency region; shelves shape the lows or highs. Lo Cut is a high-pass filter; Hi Cut is a low-pass filter.
FREQ	20 Hz-20 kHz	Sets the centre or cutoff frequency. Drag the point horizontally or enter the value in the top bar.
GAIN	-12 to +12 dB	Boosts or cuts the selected bell or shelf. Cut filters use frequency and slope instead.
Q	0.20-12.00	Shapes bell/shelf width. Higher Q gives a narrower bell. Drag the Q handles or edit the field; Q is not exposed for cut filters.
Cut slope	12 / 24 / 36 / 48 dB/oct	Controls how steeply a Lo Cut or Hi Cut attenuates. These options appear when a cut filter is selected.
S / band audition	On / Off	Listens to the selected frequency area. This is a monitoring aid, not the complete EQ output. Toggle off to hear the full mix.
Delete (X)	Selected band	Removes the selected band and releases its slot. Save a host preset before making major changes.

03 / GRAPH AND DISPLAY

Work directly on the curve

Select, edit and bypass

Click an existing point to select it. Use the top bar for filter type, frequency, gain and Q. Double-click a numeric value to enter it. Click the numbered band button at the left of the top bar to compare one band without deleting it.

LC and HC handles

Drag LC from the lower left to create or move a low cut, or HC from the lower right to create or move a high cut. Each uses one of the eight slots. Double-click the handle to remove that cut. Select a cut to adjust its slope in the top bar.

Reset and polarity

RESET removes all bands, clears audition and resets polarity to normal. The polarity symbol flips signal polarity; it is not a linear-phase EQ mode. Double-click a bell/shelf point to return its gain to 0 dB.

Native input and sidechain spectra

The gold spectrum shows the pre-EQ input, so it does not show your processed output. An optional external key input adds a blue comparison spectrum when routed by the DAW. Key audio is analysis-only: it neither mixes into the output nor creates dynamic EQ.

AAX DSP display

The HDX edition processes the EQ on DSP, but its live spectrum analyser and external sidechain spectrum are unavailable in this release. The response curve and band controls still represent the EQ settings.

Useful editing gestures

With graph focus, Delete or Backspace removes the selected band; Escape clears the selection. Double-click empty background away from the curve to return the window to its default size. Host keyboard focus can affect shortcuts.

04 / IN PRACTICE

Workflows and troubleshooting

Remove low-frequency rumble

Create a Lo Cut and begin with a gentle slope. Raise its frequency while listening, then back off before the instrument loses weight. The right setting depends on the source.

Reduce a distracting resonance

Add a bell around the problem region. Use S briefly to locate it, set a moderate Q and apply a small cut. Turn S off and judge the result with the other tracks playing.

Shape broad tone

Use a broad bell or shelf for presence, warmth or air. Small changes often work well. Watch the next processor or channel meter because EQ boosts can raise peak levels.

If the result is unexpected

Cannot add another band. Eight slots may already be occupied, including LC/HC. Delete an unused band, then click on the response curve.

Sound is narrow or isolated. Turn off S / band audition before monitoring or exporting the complete signal.

Spectrum does not follow EQ. The Native spectrum is pre-EQ. AAX DSP does not display a live spectrum in this release.

No audible EQ change. Check host bypass, the selected band enable state and its gain. A bell at 0 dB is flat; uncreated bands do not process audio.

INSTALLATION AND SESSIONS

Install, recall and get help

1. Get Lydtrold Installer

Go to <https://lydtrold.com/installer> and download Lydtrold Installer for Mac or Windows. Use this shared installer to install plug-ins and receive updates.

2. Choose the product and formats

Close your DAW before installation. Select The EQ and the formats used by your DAW. Pro Tools must be fully closed before installing or replacing AAX plug-ins.

3. Open the DAW

After installation, open your DAW and rescan plug-ins if needed. Insert the plug-in on a suitable audio path. For purchased editions, sign in or complete the activation steps presented by Lydtrold Installer.

Formats and editions

Native formats are VST3 and AAX Native on Mac and Windows, plus Audio Unit on Mac. The DSP + Native edition also includes AAX DSP for compatible Pro Tools HDX systems. Select the edition covered by your licence.

Save and automate

Save your DAW session to recall parameter settings and use the host preset system for reusable starting points. Available audio parameters can be automated in the host; meters and other display-only elements are not sound controls.

Keep a sound you have captured

Save a host preset before a factory reset or a major setting change. Recheck audio routing and format availability when opening the session on another system.

Support

Visit <https://lydtrold.com/contact>. Include the plug-in name and installed version, operating system, DAW version and plug-in format. Describe the routing, the steps that reproduce the issue and the result you expected.

About this guide: manual edition 1.0, September 2026. Illustrations show the published product interfaces. Manual edition numbers are independent of plug-in release versions.