ATOMIC LABS

MIDI GENERATOR + INSTRUMENT

CADENCE

Rhythm generator with a built-in sound

MIDI GENERATOR + INSTRUMENT | VST3 | WINDOWS 64-BIT | 300 PRESETS | V1.0



USER MANUAL

VERSION 1.0 · 2026

01 About Cadence

Cadence turns a held chord into rhythm. Three groove lanes play the notes of your chord, each at its own speed, with its own 16-step pattern or a chance-based density, note order, octave and level.

Everything random is driven by a Seed and a Loop length, so a groove you like repeats exactly. Cadence plays its own built-in sound and also sends its notes out as MIDI, so it can drive any other instrument.

TYPE	FORMAT	SIGNAL	LATENCY
MIDI generator + instrument	**VST3 · Win x64**	**MIDI in + MIDI out → stereo out**	**none**

FACTORY PRESETS	CONTROLS	WINDOW	VERSION
300 + Init	**61 automatable**	**Resizable**	**1.0**

02 Quick start

1. Load Cadence on an instrument track, hold a chord and press Play.
2. When the DAW is stopped Cadence runs on its own at the last tempo (FREE RUN); when it plays, it locks to the song (HOST SYNC).
3. Click or drag on a lane's 16 steps to draw a rhythm. Use PATTERN for ready rhythms.
4. To drive another synth in Cubase: on that synth's track choose 'Cadence - MIDI Out' as the MIDI input, then switch SOUND ON off in Cadence.

INSTALLATION

Install

Copy the folder `Cadence.vst3` into `C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3\`, then restart your DAW or rescan plug-ins. It appears under the manufacturer **Atomic Labs**.

This manual

A copy of this PDF lives inside the plug-in folder, next to `Contents`. Your DAW ignores it; it is there so the manual always travels with the plug-in.

03 The interface



Groove lanes 1-3

LANE turns a lane on. Rate is the step length (1/1 to 1/32, T = triplet, a dot = dotted). STEPS plays the pattern you draw, DENSITY plays every step by chance. Note Order picks which chord note each step plays: Up, Down, Up-Down, Random, Chord (all notes), Lowest or Highest. Chance is the probability that a step plays, Hang the chance to repeat the previous note, Octave moves the lane up or down, Level sets its velocity.

Pattern menu

All Steps, Every 2nd, Every 4th, Off-Beats, three Euclidean rhythms (sparse, medium, busy), Trance Gate, Random, Rotate Right / Left and Invert.

Feel and Loop

Swing delays the off-beat 16ths. Humanize adds small timing and velocity changes. Length and Random set note length. Accent makes the beat louder. LATCH keeps a chord running after you release the keys; MONO plays one note at a time. Seed picks the random choices and Loop (1, 2, 4, 8 bars or Endless) decides when they repeat. NEW SEED rolls a fresh set.

Pitch

Key and Scale Lock keep extra notes in key. Oct Jump is the chance that a note jumps up by octaves and Range sets how far. Three Stack slots add an extra note at a set interval, each with its own chance.

LFOs

Three tempo-synced LFOs (1/4 bar to 32 bars, six shapes) move note length, velocity and pitch bend. The bend LFO has its own chance per beat.

Built-in sound

SOUND ON, five sounds (Pluck, Keys, Bass, Pad, Bell), Tone, Decay, Space and Volume.

MIDI out

KEYS THRU also sends the notes you play. Channel sets the MIDI output channel. The light flashes when notes are sent.

04 Presets

Cadence comes with **300** factory presets in 10 categories, plus an **Init** program to start from scratch. Every preset was designed for this plug-in and level-matched, so you can browse without jumps in volume.

- **30** Classic Arps
- **30** Euclidean Grooves
- **30** Triplet Flow
- **30** Polyrhythm
- **30** Chord Stabs
- **30** Bass Lines
- **30** Trance Gates
- **30** Generative
- **30** Swing & Shuffle
- **30** Ambient Drift

A FEW TO TRY

- Rising Arp
- Golden Ladder
- Racing Run
- Steady Arp
- Tribal Circle
- Circular Wheel
- Geared Engine
- Spiral Circle
- Rippling Current
- Waltzing Waves
- Tumbling Triplets
- Flowing Current
- Offset Meters
- Drifting Machine
- Layered Cycles
- Punchy Stabs
- Bouncing Hits
- Club Chords
- Sharp Stabs
- Rubber Bassline
- Driving Bass
- Low Sub Line
- Heavy Bassline
- Pulsing Pulse
- Anthem Chop
- Euphoric Gate
- Chopped Pulse
- Lucky Melody
- Evolving Garden
- Dreaming Notes
- Lazy Shuffle
- Dusty Pocket
- Strutting Swing
- Skipping Shuffle
- Misty Clouds
- Floating Drift

05 Tips

Lane 1 at 1/16 Up, lane 2 at 1/8T Highest one octave up, lane 3 at 1/4 Lowest one octave down = instant polyrhythm.

Use DENSITY with Chance around 50 % and a 2-bar loop for generative melodies that still repeat.

Record the MIDI on a second track to edit the generated notes.

06 Atomic Labs essentials

These work the same way in every Atomic Labs plug-in.

Preset browser

Use the arrows next to the preset name to step through the presets, or click the name to open the menu sorted by category. The current category is shown above the name.

SAVE: your presets and banks

SAVE stores the complete state as your own preset (.atp) in Documents\Atomic Labs\Cadence\Presets. From the same menu you can delete presets and export or import a whole bank (.atb) to share or back up. Your presets appear at the end of the preset menu.

DICE

DICE rolls a brand-new patch: it starts from a factory design and changes the main settings at random. Not happy? Roll again, or step back to a preset.

SIZE and resizing

Drag the bottom-right corner to resize the window, or pick a fixed zoom from SIZE. The size is remembered with the project.

Automation

Every control can be automated and is listed with its full name in your DAW. Changes are smoothed, so automation never clicks.

Project recall

The whole state (including drawn waves, patterns, steps and window size where available) is saved with your project.

Routing MIDI in Cubase

Put the plug-in on an instrument track. On another instrument track set the MIDI input to "Cadence - MIDI Out". Monitor or record that track.

STABILITY

Every Atomic Labs plug-in is tested at sample rates from 44.1 to 192 kHz and at block sizes from 1 to 8192 samples, before and after the host prepares it, and with every factory preset. The audio code never allocates memory while playing, and signals are protected against invalid values, so it stays quiet and stable in long sessions.

07 Control reference

Every automatable control as your DAW lists it, with its range and default value. Where a set of controls repeats (for example several identical layers, bands or slots), it is shown once.

General

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Swing	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Humanize	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Note Length	5 % to 200 %	60 %
Length Random	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Accent	0 % to 100 %	30 %
Loop Length	Endless · 1 Bar · 2 Bars · 4 Bars · 8 Bars	2 Bars
Seed	1 to 999	1
Latch	Off · On	Off
Mono	Off · On	Off
Key	C · C# · D · D# · E · F · F# · G · G# · A · A# · B	C
Scale Lock	Off · Major · Minor · Dorian · Mixolydian · Pentatonic Major · Pentatonic Minor · Harmonic Minor	Off
Octave Spread Range	1 to 3	1
Octave Spread	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Built-In Sound	Off · On	On
Sound	Pluck · Keys · Bass · Pad · Bell	Pluck
Tone	0 % to 100 %	60 %
Decay	0 % to 100 %	40 %
Space	0 % to 100 %	20 %
Volume	-36.0 dB to +6.0 dB	-6.0 dB
Played Notes Thru	Off · On	Off
MIDI Out Channel	1 to 16	1

Length

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Length LFO Amount	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Length LFO Rate	1/4 Bar · 1/2 Bar · 1 Bar · 2 Bars · 4 Bars · 8 Bars · 16 Bars · 32 Bars	1 Bar
Length LFO Shape	Sine · Triangle · Ramp Up · Ramp Down · Square · Random	Sine

Velocity

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Velocity LFO Amount	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Velocity LFO Rate	1/4 Bar · 1/2 Bar · 1 Bar · 2 Bars · 4 Bars · 8 Bars · 16 Bars · 32 Bars	1 Bar
Velocity LFO Shape	Sine · Triangle · Ramp Up · Ramp Down · Square · Random	Sine

Bend

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Bend LFO Amount	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Bend LFO Rate	1/4 Bar · 1/2 Bar · 1 Bar · 2 Bars · 4 Bars · 8 Bars · 16 Bars · 32 Bars	1 Bar
Bend LFO Shape	Sine · Triangle · Ramp Up · Ramp Down · Square · Random	Sine
Bend Chance	0 % to 100 %	100 %

Lane 1–3

3 identical sets - Lane 1 shown

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
On	Off · On	On
Rate	1/1 · 1/2 · 1/2T · 1/4. · 1/4 · 1/4T · 1/8. · 1/8 · 1/8T · 1/16 · 1/16T · 1/32	1/16
Mode	Steps · Density	Steps
Note Order	Up · Down · Up-Down · Random · Chord · Lowest · Highest	Up
Probability	0 % to 100 %	100 %
Hang	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Octave	-3 to 3	0
Level	0 % to 100 %	85 %

Stack 1–3

3 identical sets - Stack 1 shown

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Interval	-24 to 24	7
Chance	0 % to 100 %	0 %



ATOMIC LABS

Cadence · Rhythm generator with a built-in sound

Atomic Labs makes original instruments and effects with futuristic, animated interfaces, deep sound design and hundreds of presets in every plug-in.

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