ATOMIC LABS

EFFECT

CHRONOFORM

Tempo-synced time and volume shaper

EFFECT · VST3 · WINDOWS 64-BIT · 300 PRESETS · V1.0



USER MANUAL

VERSION 1.0 · 2026

01 About Chronoform

Chronoform records the incoming audio all the time and plays it back under the control of four drawn envelopes that loop in time with the song: TIME (slow down, freeze, reverse, repeat, tape stop, scratch), VOLUME (gates and pumps), FILTER and PAN.

Each lane holds 16 slots of envelopes, has its own length (1 beat to 8 bars), a chain mode that cycles or randomises slots, and a chance. Drive, crush and tape colour finish the sound.

TYPE	FORMAT	SIGNAL	LATENCY
Effect	**VST3 · Win x64**	**Stereo in → stereo out · MIDI in**	**none**

FACTORY PRESETS	CONTROLS	WINDOW	VERSION
300 + Init	**36 automatable**	**Resizable**	**1.0**

02 Quick start

1. Insert Chronoform on a beat, a loop or the master, and press Play.
2. Choose a slot in each lane from the slot menus, for example Time slot 4 'Tape Stop (Beat 4)' and Volume slot 4 'Sidechain Pump'.
3. Draw your own envelope in the editor: add points, drag them, and draw vertical lines for jumps.
4. Use the MIDI keys to switch slots live (Latch or Hold).

INSTALLATION

Install

Copy the folder `Chronoform.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



TIME lane

The envelope sets how far playback lags behind real time. A flat line = no effect, a rising slope slows down, a steep slope reverses, a vertical drop jumps. Time Range (1/8 bar to 2 bars) and Time Amount set the scale; Jump Smoothing removes clicks.

VOLUME lane

Gates, pumps, fades and stutters. Volume Depth and Smoothing.

FILTER lane

Filter Mode (low-pass, high-pass, band-pass), Filter Depth and Resonance, the envelope moves the cutoff.

PAN lane

Pan Depth, Width and Stereo Offset.

Each lane

Slot (16 per lane), Length, Chain (Off, Cycle 2 / 4 / 8, Random 4 / 8) and Chance.

Colour and output

Swing, Drive, Crush, Tape and Tone, then Mix, Output and MIDI Mode.

04 Presets

Chronoform comes with **300** factory presets, 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.

A FEW TO TRY

- Half-Time Bar
- Gradual Slowdown
- Half-Time 1/2 Bar
- Quick Stop
- Stop-Start Wobble
- Stutter 8ths
- Sextuplet Beat 4
- Repeat & Fade
- Build-Up 4 Bars
- Half-Bar Roll
- Chaos Build
- Reverse Every Beat
- Reverse Ping-Pong
- Freeze Beats 2 & 4
- Freeze Pan
- Wiggle Scratch
- Vinyl Wobble
- Pitch Rise
- Sine Bend
- Syncopated 16ths
- Morse
- Soft Chop 8ths
- Offbeat Pump
- Breathing
- Trance Gate 3
- Euclid 3/16
- Euclid 7/12 Triplets
- Random Filter 16ths
- Dub Siren
- BP Sweep Bar
- Stereo Gate 16ths
- Stereo Tape Stop
- Old Radio
- Distorted Roll
- Filter Down 8 Bars
- Sweep & Stop

05 Tips

End-of-phrase effects: Chain = Cycle 4 with slot 1 empty for three bars and a tape stop on the fourth.

Put Chronoform on a reverb return with Volume gates for rhythmic ambience.

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\Chronoform\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.

GEN / INSPIRE

GEN / INSPIRE GEN writes a new envelope into the lane you are editing; INSPIRE fills lanes with new ideas.

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.

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
Time Range	1/8 bar · 1/4 bar · 1/2 bar · 1 bar · 2 bars	1 bar
Time Amount	0 % to 100 %	100 %
Jump Smoothing	1.0 ms to 40 ms	6.0 ms
Volume Depth	0 % to 100 %	100 %
Volume Smoothing	0.1 ms to 30 ms	2.0 ms
Filter Mode	Off · Low-Pass · High-Pass · Band-Pass	Off
Filter Depth	0 % to 100 %	100 %
Resonance	0 % to 100 %	25 %
Pan Depth	0 % to 100 %	100 %
Width	0 % to 200 %	100 %
Stereo Offset	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Swing	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Drive	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Crush	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Tape	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Tone	0 % to 100 %	100 %
Mix	0 % to 100 %	100 %
Output	-24.0 dB to +12.0 dB	0.0 dB
MIDI Mode	Latch · Hold	Latch
Bypass	Off · On	Off

Time

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Time Slot	1 Preset · 2 Half Speed · 3 Half Speed 2nd Half · 4 Tape Stop (Beat 4) · 5 Freeze Beat 4 · 6 Reverse Beat 4 · 7 Repeat 16ths · 8 Stutter 32nds (Beat 4) · 9 Triplet Repeats · 10 Half-Time Beats · 11 Scratch (Beats 3-4) · 12 Rewind (End) *+ 4 more*	1 Preset
Time Length	1 beat · 2 beats · 1 bar · 2 bars · 4 bars · 8 bars	1 bar
Time Chain	Off · Cycle 2 · Cycle 4 · Cycle 8 · Random 4 · Random 8	Off
Time Chance	0 % to 100 %	100 %

Volume

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Volume Slot	1 Preset · 2 Gate 1/8 · 3 Gate 1/16 · 4 Sidechain Pump · 5 Soft Pump · 6 Trance Gate · 7 Fade In · 8 Fade Out · 9 Triplet Gate · 10 Offbeat 8ths · 11 Stutter Gate (Beat 4) · 12 Swell Beats *+ 4 more*	1 Preset
Volume Length	1 beat · 2 beats · 1 bar · 2 bars · 4 bars · 8 bars	1 bar
Volume Chain	Off · Cycle 2 · Cycle 4 · Cycle 8 · Random 4 · Random 8	Off
Volume Chance	0 % to 100 %	100 %

Filter

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Filter Slot	1 Preset · 2 Sweep Up (Bar) · 3 Sweep Down (Bar) · 4 Wah 8ths · 5 Wah 16ths · 6 Wah Beats · 7 Random Steps 16ths · 8 Sine 1/4 · 9 Sine 1 Bar · 10 Triangle 1/2 Bar · 11 Dip Beat 4 · 12 Gated 16ths *+ 4 more*	1 Preset
Filter Length	1 beat · 2 beats · 1 bar · 2 bars · 4 bars · 8 bars	1 bar
Filter Chain	Off · Cycle 2 · Cycle 4 · Cycle 8 · Random 4 · Random 8	Off
Filter Chance	0 % to 100 %	100 %

Pan

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Pan Slot	1 Preset · 2 Autopan Bar · 3 Autopan 1/2 · 4 Autopan 1/4 · 5 Autopan 1/8 · 6 Ping-Pong 8ths · 7 Ping-Pong 16ths · 8 Ping-Pong Beats · 9 Triangle Sweep · 10 Left / Right Halves · 11 Random 16ths · 12 Circle Saw *+ 4 more*	1 Preset
Pan Length	1 beat · 2 beats · 1 bar · 2 bars · 4 bars · 8 bars	1 bar
Pan Chain	Off · Cycle 2 · Cycle 4 · Cycle 8 · Random 4 · Random 8	Off
Pan Chance	0 % to 100 %	100 %



ATOMIC LABS

Chronoform · Tempo-synced time and volume shaper

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

Version 1.0 · VST3 for Windows 64-bit · Manual generated 2026-11-13

VST is a trademark of Steinberg Media Technologies GmbH. All other names are the property of their owners.