ATOMIC LABS

INSTRUMENT

HELION

16-voice virtual-analog polysynth

INSTRUMENT · VST3 · WINDOWS 64-BIT · 1000 PRESETS · V1.0



USER MANUAL

VERSION 1.0 · 2026

01 About Helion

Helion is a big virtual-analog polysynth. Three oscillators with up to eight unison voices each, a sub and noise, FM, a multimode filter with drive, two envelopes, two LFOs, an 8-slot modulation matrix, two macros, an arpeggiator and analog drift.

An effects chain of distortion, chorus, ping-pong delay and reverb finishes the sound. It ships with 1000 factory presets.

TYPE	FORMAT	SIGNAL	LATENCY
Instrument	VST3 · Win x64	MIDI in → stereo out	none

FACTORY PRESETS	CONTROLS	WINDOW	VERSION
1000 + Init	107 automatable	Resizable	1.0

02 Quick start

1. Browse the 1000 presets with the arrows or the preset menu.
2. Use Macro 1 and 2 for quick changes, most presets map them to tone and movement.
3. Turn on the arpeggiator and hold a chord for instant sequences.
4. Raise Unison on an oscillator for huge supersaw leads.

INSTALLATION

Install

Copy the folder `Helion.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



Oscillators 1-3

Wave (saw, square, triangle, sine, noise), Octave, Semitone, Fine, Level, Pulse Width, Unison voices, Detune and Spread. Sub (level, octave), Noise Level and FM 2>1.

Filter

Filter Type (LP 24, LP 12, HP 24, HP 12, BP 12, Notch, Ladder Drive), Cutoff, Resonance, Filter Drive, Key Track and Filter Env Amount.

Envelopes

Amp envelope and Mod envelope, each with attack, decay, sustain and release.

Modulation

Two LFOs (shape, rate, tempo sync, key retrigger) and 8 routes in the matrix (source, destination, amount). Two macros.

Voice

Voice Mode, Glide, Bend Range, Analog Drift, Velocity, Stereo Width and Master.

Arpeggiator

Arp On, Mode (up, down, up/down, random, as played, chord), Octaves, Source (Classic, Pattern or Chord Pattern from 8 step patterns), Pattern, Rate, Gate and Swing.

Effects

Distortion, Chorus (mix, rate, depth), Delay (mix, feedback, time) and Reverb (mix, size, damp).

04 Presets

Helion comes with **1000** 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

- Neon Lead
- Vortex Siren
- Echo Signal
- Razor Scream
- Crater Floor
- Iron Growl
- Crater Core
- Glacier Field
- Horizon Bloom
- Glacier Tide
- Bell Pluck
- Spark Bell
- Laser Pluck
- Drawbar Organ
- Studio Keys
- Toy Celesta
- Euphoric Saws
- Summit Rush
- Elysium Chord
- Brazen Trumpets
- Royal Ensemble
- Tumble Steps
- Fractal Chase
- Clockwork Cycle
- Phoenix Mantra
- Atlantis Pattern
- Oracle Mantra
- Pulsar Sequence
- Temple Mantra
- Jungle Tribe
- Toxic Rush
- Night Line
- Garage Blast
- House Jab
- Wormhole Impact
- Abyss Swarm

05 Tips

Supersaw: three saws, Unison 7-8, Detune about 30 %, Spread full.

Pluck: filter envelope amount high, sustain 0, short decay, delay on.

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\Helion\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.

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
Sub Level	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Sub Octave	-1 Oct · -2 Oct	-1 Oct
Noise Level	0 % to 100 %	0 %
FM 2>1	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Filter Type	LP 24 · LP 12 · HP 24 · HP 12 · BP 12 · Notch · Ladder Drive	LP 24
Cutoff	20 Hz to 20.00 kHz	2.52 kHz
Resonance	0 % to 100 %	20 %
Filter Drive	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Key Track	0 % to 100 %	30 %
Filter Env Amount	-100 % to +100 %	+30 %
Macro 1	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Macro 2	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Voice Mode	Poly · Mono · Legato	Poly
Glide	Off to 1505 ms	Off
Bend Range	0 to 24	2
Analog Drift	0 % to 100 %	15 %
Velocity Sens	0 % to 100 %	60 %
Master	-48.0 dB to +12.0 dB	-3.1 dB
Stereo Width	0 % to 200 %	100 %
Distortion	0 % to 100 %	0 %

Amp

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Amp Env Attack	1 ms to 10.00 s	5 ms
Amp Env Decay	5 ms to 10.00 s	300 ms
Amp Env Sustain	0 % to 100 %	80 %
Amp Env Release	5 ms to 10.00 s	300 ms

Mod

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Mod Env Attack	1 ms to 10.00 s	5 ms
Mod Env Decay	5 ms to 10.00 s	400 ms
Mod Env Sustain	0 % to 100 %	20 %
Mod Env Release	5 ms to 10.00 s	400 ms

Arp

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Arp On	Off · On	Off
Arp Mode	Up · Down · Up/Down · Random · As Played · Chord	Up
Arp Octaves	1 to 4	1
Arp Source	Classic · Pattern · Chord Pattern	Classic
Arp Pattern	A · B · C · D · E · F · G · H	A
Arp Rate	1/32 · 1/16T · 1/16 · 1/8T · 1/16D · 1/8 · 1/4T · 1/8D · 1/4 · 1/2 · 1 bar · 2 bars	1/16
Arp Gate	5 % to 100 %	60 %
Arp Swing	0 % to 60 %	0 %

Chorus

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Chorus Mix	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Chorus Rate	0 % to 100 %	40 %
Chorus Depth	0 % to 100 %	50 %

Delay

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Delay Mix	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Delay Feedback	0 % to 95 %	35 %
Delay Time	1/32 · 1/16T · 1/16 · 1/8T · 1/16D · 1/8 · 1/4T · 1/8D · 1/4 · 1/2 · 1 bar · 2 bars	1/8D

Reverb

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Reverb Mix	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Reverb Size	0 % to 100 %	60 %
Reverb Damp	0 % to 100 %	40 %

Osc 1–3

3 identical sets - Osc 1 shown

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
On	Off · On	On
Wave	Saw · Square · Triangle · Sine · Noise	Saw
Octave	-3 to 3	0
Semitone	-12 to 12	0
Fine	-100.0 ct to +100.0 ct	0.0 ct
Level	0 % to 100 %	80 %
Pulse Width	5 % to 95 %	50 %
Unison	1 to 8	1
Detune	0 % to 100 %	20 %
Spread	0 % to 100 %	50 %

LFO 1 & 2

2 identical sets - LFO 1 shown

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Shape	Sine · Triangle · Saw · Square · Sample & Hold	Sine
Rate	0.02 Hz to 20.00 Hz	0.63 Hz
Sync	Off · On	Off
Key Retrigger	Off · On	Off

Mod 1–8

8 identical sets - Mod 1 shown

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Source	- · LFO 1 · LFO 2 · Mod Env · Velocity · Mod Wheel · Aftertouch · Key Track · Note Random · Macro 1 · Macro 2	-
Destination	- · Pitch · Osc 1 Pitch · Osc 2 Pitch · Osc 3 Pitch · Pulse Width · Cutoff · Resonance · FM Amount · Detune · Amp · Pan *+ 5 more*	-
Amount	-100 % to +100 %	0 %

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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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