ATOMIC LABS

EFFECT

SOVEREIGN

Mastering VCA compressor

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



USER MANUAL

VERSION 1.0 · 2026

01 About Sovereign

Sovereign is a clean, precise mastering compressor with peak or RMS detection, program-dependent auto release, lookahead, sidechain filtering and external sidechain.

It works in stereo, dual mono, mid / side, mid-only or side-only, has parallel mix, a colour stage (tape, tube, transformer), auto makeup, an output clipper and delta listening.

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

FACTORY PRESETS	CONTROLS	WINDOW	VERSION
300 + Init	28 automatable	Resizable	1.0

02 Quick start

1. Insert Sovereign on the master or a bus.
2. Set Ratio around 2:1 and lower Threshold until gain reduction reads 1-3 dB.
3. Use Auto Release for natural recovery.
4. Add a little Colour and use Mix for parallel compression.

INSTALLATION

Install

Copy the folder `Sovereign.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



Compressor

Input Gain, Threshold, Ratio, Attack, Release, Auto Release, Knee, Range, Detector (peak to RMS), Lookahead.

Gain

Makeup and Auto Makeup.

Sidechain

Sidechain HPF with frequency, Sidechain Emphasis, External Sidechain and Sidechain Listen.

Routing

Channels (Stereo, Dual Mono, Mid, Side, Mid Only, Side Only), Stereo Link, Stereo Width.

Colour and output

Colour (Tape, Tube, Transformer), Colour Drive and Colour Mix. Mix, Output, Output Clipper, Delta Listen and Bypass.

04 Presets

Sovereign 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** Mastering Glue
- **30** Loud Master
- **30** Gentle Bus
- **30** Drum Bus
- **30** Vocal
- **30** Bass & Kick
- **30** Parallel Smash
- **30** Mid-Side Master
- **30** Punch & Transient
- **30** Colour & Saturation

A FEW TO TRY

- Pop Glue
- Cinematic Polish
- Rock Glue
- Metal Cohesion
- Techno Loud
- Lo-Fi Slam
- Trap Max
- Psytrance Slam
- Jazz Blend
- Hip-Hop Sheen
- Dubstep Blend
- Ambient Sheen
- Pop Knock
- Cinematic Crack
- Rock Knock
- Metal Vocal
- Techno Leveler
- EDM Vocal
- Trap Front
- Psytrance Bass
- Jazz Sub
- House Kick
- Dubstep Sub
- Ambient Crush
- Pop Blend
- Acoustic Crush
- Rock Blend
- Metal Sides
- Techno M/S
- EDM Sides
- Trap Punch
- Psytrance Attack
- Lo-Fi Punch
- House Impact
- Dubstep Colour
- Ambient Tape

05 Tips

Transparent glue: 1.5:1, slow attack (30 ms), auto release, 1-2 dB.

Control a wide stereo mix: Mid/Side with more compression on the Side.

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\Sovereign\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
Threshold	-40.0 dB to 0.0 dB	-12.0 dB
Ratio	1.0 : 1 to 20 : 1	2.0 : 1
Attack	0.05 ms to 100 ms	10.0 ms
Release	10.0 ms to 2000 ms	150 ms
Auto Release	Off · On	Off
Knee	0.0 dB to +24.0 dB	+6.0 dB
Makeup	0.0 dB to +24.0 dB	0.0 dB
Auto Makeup	Off · On	Off
Detector (Peak - RMS)	Peak to RMS	30 % RMS
Lookahead	0.00 ms to 5.0 ms	0.00 ms
Sidechain HPF	Off · On	On
Sidechain HPF Freq	20 Hz to 500 Hz	90 Hz
External Sidechain	Off · On	Off
Channels	Stereo · Dual Mono · Mid / Side · Mid Only · Side Only	Stereo
Stereo Link	0 % to 100 %	100 %
Mix	0 % to 100 %	100 %
Output	-24.0 dB to +12.0 dB	0.0 dB
Output Clipper	Off · On	Off
Delta Listen	Off · On	Off
Bypass	Off · On	Off
Input Gain	-12.0 dB to +12.0 dB	0.0 dB
Range	1.0 dB to Full	Full
Sidechain Emphasis	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Sidechain Listen	Off · On	Off
Stereo Width	0 % to 200 %	100 %

Colour

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	DEFAULT
Colour Drive	0 % to 100 %	0 %
Colour	Tape · Tube · Transformer	Tape
Colour Mix	0 % to 100 %	100 %



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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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