

Purafied

VU Compressor Manual Ver 2



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Purafied.com

1. Introduction

Tried and true meets shiny and new.

Designed to mimic producer Sam Pura's favorite Class A limiting amplifiers, our VU Compressor packs all the punch of the real deal with all the flexibility of modern plugin design. Load one instance of the VU Compressor to get access to 4 different legendary 60's compressors with THD modeling and accurate harmonics. The included presets are battle-tested for the biggest sounds possible, but our no-nonsense interface allows you to dial in any of the incredible sounds you expect from these compressors, and might even inspire you to take them somewhere new.



2. Setup

2.1 Installation

For Mac users: The included installer should install the plugin's VST3, AU, and AAX formats automatically, you may need to restart your DAW to see the plugin listed.

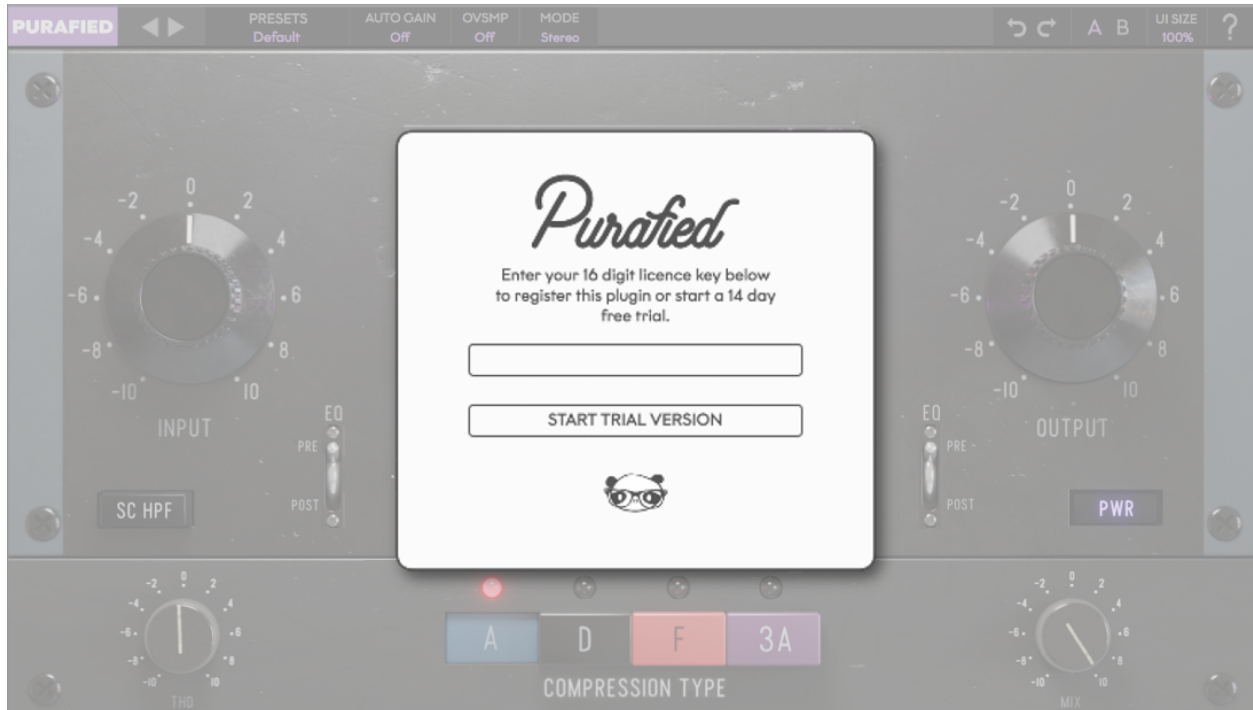
For Windows users: You will have to manually move the plugin formats into their respective folders. Common locations for each format are as follows:

```
VST3:
    C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3
AAX:
    C:\Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins
```

If after restarting your DAW, you still don't see the plugin listed, **check your DAW's plugin folder settings**, and be sure that the plugin is in the proper location for your software.

2.2 Product Registration

When using the VU Compressor for the first time, you will see the product registration screen, and if you have not yet purchased a license, here is where you can begin your trial period. Otherwise, enter your license key for the product and click the icon to the right of the text box to finish registration and enjoy your new/old gear.



During trial mode you can still register at any time by clicking the **PURAFIED** logo in the top left, and opening the registration prompt from there.

After your trial ends you will go back to seeing the registration prompt every time you open an instance, and you will have to register the product to continue.

2.3 Uninstallation

For Mac users: Delete the plugin files from the following folders:

```
VST3: /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/  
AU:   /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/AU/  
AAX:  /Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins
```

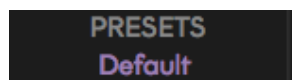
The system Library folder should be listed within Macintosh HD, but if you have trouble finding your plugins, you can click **Go To Folder**, paste in one of the paths listed above, and click **Go** when you're finished.

For Windows users: Remove the plugins from the same place they were installed. The common locations are:

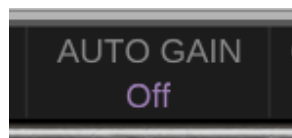
```
VST3:  
    C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3  
AAX:  
    C:\Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins
```

If you don't find anything, or still see them in your DAW, check the plugin folder locations for your DAW.

3. Controls



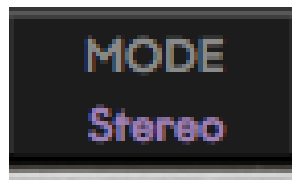
PRESETS selects one of the versatile presets. Features presets created by Sam Pura and his best friends, or save your own using the user preset slots. The **arrows** to the left switch between presets quickly.



AUTO GAIN compensates for your INPUT level by adjusting the OUTPUT level, so volume is consistent. Off by default.



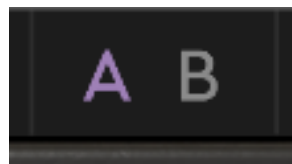
OVSMP sets the oversampling rate for the VU Compressor, its default is Off, but it can go up to 16x. Oversampling increases CPU usage but can reduce aliasing.



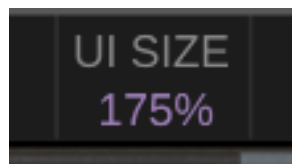
MODE toggles between **Dual Mono** and **Stereo** modes. Dual Mono compresses the left and right channels independently, Stereo applies the same gain reduction to both channels.



Undo and redo can move back and forward in the history of tweaks you've made to the controls.



A B switches between two saved states of the plugin, useful for comparing changes.



UI SIZE changes the size of the window from 60% to 175%. Defaults to 100%.



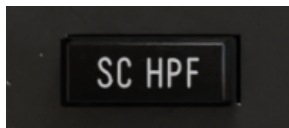
? opens the manual of the plugin.



INPUT controls the input gain of the signal before it hits the compression stage. Default is 0dB, range is -10dB to +10dB.



OUTPUT controls the output gain of the signal **after** it hits the compression stage. Default is 0dB, range is -10dB to +10dB.
Note: This control is set automatically when auto gain is enabled. Changing it **disables** auto gain.



SC HPF toggles a high pass filter at 85 Hz on the side chain input into the compressor, disabled by default.



BTM controls the boost/cut of the low end of the sound, with the **EQ** being applied either **PRE** or **POST** compression, toggled via its switch. BTM starts at 0dB, and can go from -10dB to +10dB. The EQ is applied before compression by default.



TOP controls the boost/cut of the high end of the sound, with the **EQ** being applied either **PRE** or **POST** compression, toggled via its switch. TOP starts at 0dB, and can go from -10dB to +10dB. The EQ is applied before compression by default.



PWR bypasses the plugin when **disabled**. Enabled by default.



THD controls the level of Total Harmonic Distortion in the compressor model. Defaults to 0 (natural distortion), goes from -10 (no distortion) to 10 (hella distortion). See **Chapter 4** for details on modeling.



MIX controls how much wet and dry signal you want. Defaults to 100% wet. Goes from 0% to 100%.



COMPRESSION TYPE selects which model of compressor you want to use, and is the coolest part of the VU Compressor. Read **Chapter 4** for more details.

TIP: Shift-click a knob to type its value in directly!

4. Modeling details

The VU Compressor was designed to replace, and improve on 4 keystone hardware compressors in producer Sam Pura's studio workflow, each recognizable by their prominent VU meters. Real hardware compressors residing at The Panda Studios in Fremont, California were painstakingly recorded and analyzed by Purafied's own Eddie Lucciola to match compression and saturation character. To get authentic saturation, leave the THD knob right at zero, but don't let that stop you from experimenting with different levels—THD is fully independent from gain! The COMPRESSION TYPE buttons correspond to each of the VU Compressor models, so you can try out different sounds instantly and get exactly what you need, no matter the source.

Here's a little detail on how these models came to be:

TYPE A is based on the infamous blue stripe FET Limiter, revision A. Modeling was completed at a 4:1 ratio, with the slowest attack (surprisingly: 0.8 ms) and fastest release setting. The point is: you can get any amount of compression just by turning up the gain, and your transients are perfectly safe. This compressor is seriously glossy, and became omnipresent after "The Sound of Hits" disclosed his heavy use of it on vocals.

TYPE D is based on the black face version of the FET Limiter, revision D. Knobs are set the same way as TYPE A, for the same reasons. Despite being a black face FET Limiter, this revision of the compressor has a very edgy tone compared to revision F, and is a time-honored staple for vocals and guitars for that aspect.

TYPE F is based on the more modern black face FET Limiter, revision F. Knobs are set the same way as TYPE A, for the same reasons. This revision is significantly more common than revision D, and is easily the most modern sounding compression model in the plugin.

TYPE 3A is based on optical, not FET, compression, with this model specifically using Sam Pura's custom 3a-style leveling amplifier, modified to use the highest quality T4B opto cell. We set it to "COMP" mode for our model, and left the nonexistent attack/release knobs as they were. TYPE 3A is your favorite flavor of leveling compression, especially if you're "Robert Fuzzhill" or an electric guitar at "The Sound of Hits" studio. Pump in any harshness/edge/boom and receive forgiving smoothness in return.

Note: Our models do not include any 50/60Hz hum modes, we apologize for not ruining your mix.

5. Troubleshooting

1. Be sure to re-read through the **Setup** section of this manual just in case.
2. Check the [Purafied FAQ](#) to see if your issue is already listed.
3. If not, contact panda@purafied.com with your plugin version (click the PURAFIED logo in the top left to find this), the details of the issue, and the steps to reproduce it.