Plugin Alliance bx_limiter True Peak

Plugin Alliance Brainworx bx_limiter True Peak User Manual

Model: bx_limiter True Peak

1. Introduction

The Brainworx bx_limiter True Peak is an advanced true peak limiter designed to provide transparent and powerful limiting for mastering and mixing applications. It addresses the limitations of traditional limiters by accurately controlling inter-sample peaks, ensuring your audio remains clean and free from distortion even at high loudness levels. This manual will guide you through its features and operation.

2. Setup and Installation

2.1 System Requirements

Ensure your system meets the minimum requirements for your Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) and the Plugin Alliance platform. The bx_limiter True Peak is compatible with major plugin formats (VST, AU, AAX) on macOS and Windows operating systems.

2.2 Installation Process

1. Download the Plugin Alliance Installation Manager from the official Plugin Alliance website.
2. Run the installer and follow the on-screen instructions.
3. Launch your DAW and scan for new plugins. The bx_limiter True Peak should now be available in your plugin list.
4. Activate your license using the Plugin Alliance License Manager or directly within the plugin interface upon first use.

3. Operating the bx_limiter True Peak

3.1 User Interface Overview

The bx_limiter True Peak features an intuitive graphical user interface (GUI) designed for efficient workflow. The interface is divided into several key sections:

- **Metering Section:** Displays input/output levels, gain reduction, and loudness information.
- **Mode Section:** Selects between Modern and Classic limiting algorithms.
- **Gain and Ceiling Controls:** Adjusts the input gain and the maximum output level.
- **Release and XL %:** Controls the limiter's release time and the amount of "extra loudness" processing.
- **Tone Control** / **Foundation:** Provides high-pass and low-pass filter options for shaping the sound before limiting.
- **Output Controls:** Manages channel linking, limiter mix, and overall output dimming.
- **Solo Section:** Allows soloing specific channels or processing stages for detailed monitoring.



Figure 3.1: Overview of the Brainworx bx_limiter True Peak plugin interface. The image displays the metering section on the left, showing input/output levels, true peak, RMS, gain reduction, dynamic range, and LUFS. The right side features controls for Mode (Modern/Classic), Gain, Release, XL %, Ceiling, Tone Control (HPF/LPF), Channel Link, Limiter Mix, and Output Dim. A solo section is visible at the bottom.

3.2 Key Controls and Parameters

3.2.1 Metering Section

- **IN/OUT Buttons:** Toggles metering between input and output signals.

- **True Peak:** Displays the true peak level, including inter-sample peaks.
- **RMS:** Shows the Root Mean Square level, indicating perceived loudness.
- **Gain Reduction:** Visualizes the amount of gain reduction applied by the limiter.
- **LUFS:** Loudness Units Full Scale, providing integrated loudness measurement.
- **Momentary/Loudness Modes:** Selects different loudness measurement standards.

3.2.2 Limiter Controls

- **MODE (Modern/Classic):** Selects the limiting algorithm. *Modern* offers transparent limiting, while *Classic* provides a more aggressive, characterful sound.
- **GAIN dB:** Adjusts the input gain into the limiter. Use this to drive the signal into the limiting threshold.
- **CEILING dB:** Sets the absolute maximum output level of the signal. Typically set to -0.1 dB or -0.3 dB for true peak limiting.
- **RELEASE ms:** Controls how quickly the limiter recovers after gain reduction. Shorter times can sound more aggressive, longer times smoother.
- **XL %:** An advanced parameter that adds a subtle amount of saturation and density, enhancing perceived loudness.

3.2.3 Tone Control / Foundation

- **HPF Hz (High-Pass Filter):** Cuts low frequencies before limiting, which can help prevent excessive gain reduction from bass content.
- **LPF kHz (Low-Pass Filter):** Cuts high frequencies before limiting, useful for taming harshness or sibilance.

3.2.4 Output and Solo Controls

- **CHANNEL LINK %:** Determines how much the left and right channels are linked for gain reduction. 100% links them fully, preventing stereo image shifts.
- **LIMITER MIX %:** Blends the processed (limited) signal with the unprocessed signal. Useful for parallel limiting techniques.
- **OUTPUT DIM dB:** Reduces the overall output level for monitoring purposes without affecting the actual limiting.
- **SOLO Buttons (Left, S.I.P., Right, Mid, Side):** Allows isolated listening to specific channels or the inter-sample peak (S.I.P.) signal for precise adjustments.

4. Maintenance

4.1 Software Updates

Regularly check the Plugin Alliance website or use the Installation Manager for software updates. Updates often include performance improvements, bug fixes, and new features.

4.2 Best Practices

- Save your plugin presets regularly.
- Ensure your DAW and operating system are up to date.
- Back up your project files before major system changes or updates.

5. Troubleshooting

5.1 Common Issues

- **Plugin Not Appearing in DAW:** Ensure the plugin was installed correctly and your DAW's plugin scan paths are

configured to include the Plugin Alliance VST/AU/AAX folders. Perform a rescan.

- **Audio Distortion:** Check your GAIN and CEILING settings. Ensure True Peak is not exceeding 0 dB. Reduce input gain if necessary.
- **High CPU Usage:** Close unnecessary applications. Increase your DAW's buffer size. Consider freezing or bouncing tracks if CPU remains high.
- **Licensing Issues:** Verify your internet connection and ensure your license is active via the Plugin Alliance License Manager.

5.2 Contact Support

If you encounter issues not covered in this manual, please visit thePlugin Alliance Support Page for further assistance, FAQs, and contact options.

6. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Product Name	Brainworx bx_limiter True Peak
Developer	Brainworx (Plugin Alliance)
Plugin Type	True Peak Limiter
Supported Formats	VST, VST3, AU, AAX Native
Operating Systems	macOS, Windows
ASIN	B0BM5X83Z6
First Available on Amazon.co.jp	2022/11/12

7. Warranty and Support

For detailed warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official Plugin Alliance website. Plugin Alliance provides comprehensive support resources, including FAQs, knowledge base articles, and direct contact options for registered users.
Official Website: www.plugin-alliance.com

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