

Heritage Dynamics Collection

Five compressors. One complete guide.



User Manual

English | Manual edition 1.0 | September 2026

Mac + Windows | AU on Mac, VST3 and AAX Native
AAX DSP edition for compatible Pro Tools HDX systems

01 / START HERE

Start here

Heritage Dynamics Collection contains five separately insertable compressors: LT-76, LT-2A, LT-3A, LT-Comp and LT-Bus Comp. Each has a distinct control scheme and musical role. This guide covers the Console interfaces pictured on the product page, with a dedicated control reference for every processor.

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	HOW TO USE IT
LT-76	FET dynamics	Controls on page 3
LT-2A	Smooth opto dynamics	Controls on page 4
LT-3A	Fast opto dynamics	Controls on page 5
LT-Comp	Flexible VCA dynamics	Controls on page 6
LT-Bus Comp	Stereo bus dynamics	Controls on page 7

Your first session

1. Choose LT-76 for fast FET control, LT-2A for smooth optical levelling, LT-3A for faster optical control, LT-Comp for flexible VCA compression or LT-Bus Comp for a stereo bus.
2. Play a representative loud section. Use Input on LT-76, Peak Reduction on the opto models or Threshold on the VCA models to set the amount of compression.
3. Adjust timing while listening to attacks and recovery. Start with gentle gain reduction, then increase it only if the musical role needs more density.
4. Use Gain, Makeup or Output as appropriate to compare at similar loudness. Auto Gain is a useful aid; always make the final decision by ear.

02 / PROCESSOR 1 OF 5

LT-76 / FET dynamics



Input drives the compressor against its internal threshold. Its attack is measured in microseconds: even the slower end is fast. Use Output and the inverse Input/Output Link to keep comparisons useful.

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	HOW TO USE IT
Input / Output	-12 to +36 / -24 to +24 dB	Input sets drive into compression; Output balances the result.
Ratio	4:1 / 8:1 / 12:1 / 20:1 / ALL	Higher ratios give firmer control. ALL is an aggressive character choice.
Attack	20 to 800 microseconds	Lower time values catch peaks faster; higher values let more of the initial transient through.
Release	50 to 1100 ms	Sets recovery after gain reduction. Listen for the envelope between hits or words.
Sidechain HP	20 to 500 Hz	Reduces low-frequency influence on the detector without acting as an audio high-pass filter.
Mix	0 to 100%	Blends the dry and compressed paths for parallel processing.
Character	0 to 100%	Sets the amount of FET colour.
Input/Output Link	On / Off	Links the two GUI controls inversely. Hold a modifier key while adjusting to change them independently.
Auto Gain / Bypass	On / Off	Auto Gain helps level compensation. Bypass passes the original input.
Factory Reset / meters	Reset action / displays	Factory Reset restores defaults. The curve, input/output meters and gain reduction help assess processing.

02 / PROCESSOR 2 OF 5

LT-2A / Smooth opto dynamics



Peak Reduction sets how strongly the optical stage controls level. Gain provides makeup gain. This Console edition adds Attack, Release, Sidechain HP, Mix, Character and Output for more detailed adjustment.

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	HOW TO USE IT
Peak Reduction	0 to 100%	Increases compression. Set by the gain-reduction reading and the source's phrasing.
Gain	0 to +40 dB	Provides makeup gain. Begin conservatively and match the listening level.
Mode	COMP / LIMIT	Chooses gentler compression or firmer limiting-style behaviour; this is not a true-peak ceiling limiter.
Attack / Release	1-100 / 50-2500 ms	Shape the optical response. Longer attack preserves more onset; release controls recovery.
Sidechain HP	20 to 500 Hz	Reduces bass influence on the compression detector.
Mix	0 to 100%	Blends dry and processed audio.
Character	0 to 100%	Adjusts optical-stage colour.
Output	-24 to +12 dB	Final output trim after the processing path.
Meter mode	GR / +4 / +10	Chooses gain-reduction or calibrated output-meter views. It does not set audio gain.
Auto Gain / Bypass	On / Off	Auto Gain assists level compensation. Bypass passes the input.
Factory Reset	Reset action	Restores factory parameter values; save a host preset first if you need the current setting.

LT-3A / Fast opto dynamics



LT-3A uses Peak Reduction and Gain for quick optical control with a faster feel. HF Emphasis changes how strongly high-frequency content influences the detector. Attack and release follow the model rather than separate front-panel timing controls.

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	HOW TO USE IT
Peak Reduction	0 to 100%	Sets compression strength.
Gain	0 to +50 dB	Provides makeup gain. Set it conservatively and compare at a similar level.
Mode	COMP / LIMIT	Selects gentler or firmer optical dynamics. LIMIT is not a true-peak ceiling guarantee.
HF Emphasis	0 to 100%	Increases high-frequency emphasis in the detector; it is not a treble boost in the audible signal.
Mix	0 to 100%	Blends dry and compressed audio.
Discrete Character	0 to 100%	Sets the model's discrete-stage colour.
Output	-24 to +12 dB	Final output-level trim.
Meter mode	GR / +4 / +10	Selects gain-reduction or output-meter calibration. It does not change the audio gain.
Auto Gain / Bypass	On / Off	Auto Gain assists comparison. Bypass passes the original input.
Factory Reset / meters	Reset action / displays	Restores parameter defaults. Meter and curve displays show level and compression activity.

LT-Comp / Flexible VCA dynamics



LT-Comp combines variable timing with ratio, knee, detector and topology choices. Console Drive and Tube Character add colour; Comp Mix supports parallel compression. Choose the response first, then set Threshold and output balance.

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	HOW TO USE IT
Threshold / Makeup	-30 to 0 / -6 to +18 dB	Lower Threshold for more compression; Makeup compensates level.
Ratio	1.5:1 / 2:1 / 3:1 / 4:1 / 6:1 / 10:1	Controls the strength of compression above threshold.
Attack / Release	0.03-30 / 50-2000 ms	Set transient control and recovery.
Knee	Soft / Medium / Hard	Changes how gradually compression begins around threshold.
Detector	Flat / Punch / Deep	Changes detector frequency sensitivity. Punch reduces low-frequency dominance; Deep weights low energy more.
Topology	Modern / Vintage	Selects feed-forward or feedback behaviour.
Comp Mix	0 to 100%	Blends the dry and compressed signal.
Console Drive	0 to 100%	Adds console-style drive character.
Tube Character	0 to 100%	Adds tube colour; the host parameter may be named Tube Drive.
Output	-24 to +12 dB	Final level trim.
Auto Gain / Bypass	On / Off	Auto Gain assists level compensation. Bypass passes the input.
Factory Reset / meters	Reset action / displays	Restores defaults. Input/output, curve and gain-reduction displays help monitor the result.

LT-Bus Comp / Stereo bus dynamics



LT-Bus Comp uses a linked internal detector for cohesive stereo control. Sidechain HP reduces bass-driven pumping. The Transformer switch enables a separate colour stage, with Transformer Drive setting its intensity.

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	HOW TO USE IT
Threshold	-20 to 0 dB	Lower the threshold until the bus has the desired gain reduction.
Ratio	1.5:1 / 2:1 / 3:1 / 4:1 / 10:1	Sets compression strength. Start gently on a complete mix.
Attack	0.1 / 0.3 / 1 / 3 / 10 / 30 ms	Selects how quickly compression catches an attack.
Release	0.1 / 0.3 / 0.6 / 1.2 s / Auto	Sets recovery or selects automatic behaviour.
Sidechain HP	0 to 500 Hz	Reduces low-frequency energy in the detector, not the audible bus signal.
Makeup	-5 to +15 dB	Manual makeup gain when Auto Gain is off.
Auto Gain	On / Off	Uses ratio-aware automatic makeup in place of the manual Makeup value.
Transformer / Drive	On-Off / 0 to 100%	Enables transformer colour and adjusts its intensity. Turn Transformer off to remove that stage; 0% Drive still has base colour while it is on.
Output	-18 to +18 dB	Final output-level adjustment.
Bypass / Factory Reset	On-Off / reset action	Bypass passes the original signal. Factory Reset restores parameter defaults.
Meters / curve	Displays only	Shows input, output and linked gain reduction. The current interface uses its internal stereo detector.

03 / IN PRACTICE

Workflows and troubleshooting

Vocal levelling

Start with LT-2A in COMP and raise Peak Reduction until louder words settle. Adjust timing without losing consonants, then match Gain and Output. Try LT-3A for a faster response.

Controlling drum attacks

Use LT-76 at 4:1 with a slower attack setting in microseconds, then increase Input. Faster attack catches more of the leading edge. Try a lower Mix for parallel impact.

Flexible channel compression

On LT-Comp, set Ratio and Knee before Threshold. Compare the detector and topology choices at similar gain reduction, then introduce Console Drive or Tube Character if useful.

Stereo bus cohesion

Start LT-Bus Comp at 2:1, 30 ms Attack and Auto Release. Lower Threshold for gentle movement. Raise Sidechain HP if kick or bass drives excessive compression; recheck low-end control.

If the result is unexpected

Compression does not react. Turn Bypass off. Increase LT-76 Input or opto Peak Reduction, or lower the VCA Threshold. Confirm audio reaches the insert.

The result is dull, distorted or pumping. Reduce gain reduction, allow a slower attack where available and adjust release against the phrase. Reduce character or drive before adding output gain.

Bass triggers too much gain reduction. Use Sidechain HP on LT-76, LT-2A or LT-Bus Comp, or compare LT-Comp detector choices. Detector filtering changes the trigger response, not the audible EQ directly.

INSTALLATION AND SESSIONS

Install, recall and get help

1. Get Lydtrold Installer

Go to <https://lydtrold.com/installer> and download Lydtrold Installer for Mac or Windows. Use this shared installer to install plug-ins and receive updates.

2. Choose the product and formats

Close your DAW before installation. Select Heritage Dynamics Collection and the formats used by your DAW. Pro Tools must be fully closed before installing or replacing AAX plug-ins.

3. Open the DAW

After installation, open your DAW and rescan plug-ins if needed. Insert the plug-in on a suitable audio path. For purchased editions, sign in or complete the activation steps presented by Lydtrold Installer.

Formats and editions

Native formats are VST3 and AAX Native on Mac and Windows, plus Audio Unit on Mac. The DSP + Native edition also includes AAX DSP for compatible Pro Tools HDX systems. Select the edition covered by your licence.

Save and automate

Save your DAW session to recall parameter settings and use the host preset system for reusable starting points. Available audio parameters can be automated in the host; meters and other display-only elements are not sound controls.

Keep a sound you have captured

Save a host preset before a factory reset or a major setting change. Recheck audio routing and format availability when opening the session on another system.

Support

Visit <https://lydtrold.com/contact>. Include the plug-in name and installed version, operating system, DAW version and plug-in format. Describe the routing, the steps that reproduce the issue and the result you expected.

About this guide: manual edition 1.0, September 2026. Illustrations show the published product interfaces. Manual edition numbers are independent of plug-in release versions.