LYDTROLD AUDIO / MADE IN DENMARK

LT VU

Mono and stereo VU metering



User Manual

English | Manual edition 1.0 | October 2026

Product version: 0.1.8

Native: VST3 and AAX Native; AU on Mac

AAX DSP + Native edition available for compatible HDX systems

lydtrold.com

01 / START HERE

Meet LT VU

Free mono and stereo VU metering with adjustable reference level. Native and AAX DSP included in the Lydtrold Free Collection.



Your first session

1. Insert at the point in the chain whose operating level you want to inspect.
2. Select a reference appropriate to your workflow; -18 dBFS is the default.
3. Play representative audio and observe average movement, while checking digital peaks with the host meter.

02 / REFERENCE

Controls and behaviour

Names follow the front panel; alternate host parameter names are included where useful. Ranges describe control values, not recommended settings.

CONTROL	RANGE / OPTIONS	HOW TO USE IT
0 VU reference	-24 to -6 dBFS; default -18	Sets the digital level corresponding to 0 VU. It changes meter calibration, not audio gain.
VU needles	Display only	Show average programme movement rather than instantaneous digital peak level. Read each channel on stereo material.

03 / IN PRACTICE

Workflows and troubleshooting

Consistent gain staging

Use the same reference across channels when comparing average operating levels. Change gain elsewhere in the signal path.

Before and after a processor

Compare VU activity on either side of a processor, alongside peak meters and listening.

If the result is unexpected

VU differs from the peak meter. VU ballistics average the signal. Fast transients can have high peaks while the VU reading remains lower.

Changing reference does not change volume. This is expected: reference calibrates the display and does not apply gain.

04 / INSTALLATION AND SESSIONS

Install, recall and get help

Download and install

Visit https://lydtrold.com/installer and download the public Lydtrold Installer for your platform. Close your DAW before installing or updating. For AAX, Pro Tools must be fully closed. Enter the licence key associated with your purchase or Free Collection, select the product and required formats, then install.

Choose the format

Use AU in compatible Mac hosts, VST3 in compatible Mac or Windows hosts, or AAX Native in Pro Tools. The AAX DSP edition runs on compatible Pro Tools HDX systems and includes the Native formats. Select the edition covered by your licence.

System compatibility

The public Mac plug-ins support Intel from macOS 10.15 and Apple silicon from macOS 11. The current public Mac installer requires macOS 12 or later. Use a compatible 64-bit DAW and check the product page for current platform and format availability.

Recall and automation

Save the DAW session and use supported host presets to retain parameter settings. Automate sound controls exposed by the installed edition in the host. Display-only meters and analysis results are not sound parameters. Save a preset before resetting or making major changes.

Support

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

Manual edition 1.0, 26 October 2026. Covers the public product version shown on the cover. Manual editions and plug-in versions are separate. Illustrations show the published product interface.