LYDTROLD AUDIO

THE 31

31-band constant-Q graphic equaliser



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

lydtrold.com

01 / START HERE

Meet THE 31

THE 31 is a clean constant-Q graphic equaliser with 31 fixed third-octave bands from 20 Hz to 20 kHz. Each band offers 12 dB of cut or boost. A combined-response curve, live spectrum display and output meters make broad balance and narrow problem areas easy to see while you work.



Your first session

1. Insert THE 31 on a track, bus or output and leave all faders at 0 dB for a neutral starting point.

2. Play a representative section and use small moves across neighbouring bands for broad tone shaping.

3. Use narrower changes when controlling a resonance. Return the band toward 0 dB if the source starts to sound hollow or phasey.

4. Use Output to match the processed level to bypass, then store the result as a DAW preset if it is worth recalling.

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
31 frequency bands	20 Hz to 20 kHz; -12 to +12 dB	Adjusts fixed third-octave constant-Q bands. Adjacent faders can be moved together for broad curves; isolated faders make more focused changes.
Output	-12 to +12 dB	Sets final level after the equaliser. Use it to compare the EQ curve with the original at a similar loudness.
IN	On / Off	Engages or bypasses the complete equaliser path for comparison.
RESET	Action button	Returns all 31 frequency-band faders to 0 dB. Output remains a separate control.
Factory Presets	10 presets / Custom	Loads complete 31-band starting curves. Moving a band away from the loaded curve changes the selector to Custom.
Response curve	Display only	Shows the exact combined EQ response, including the interaction between neighbouring bands.
Spectrum and meters	Display only	Shows programme energy and output level. Use the display to support listening decisions, not as a substitute for them.

03 / IN PRACTICE

Workflows and troubleshooting

Broad tonal balance

Move a group of neighbouring faders by 1-3 dB to warm, brighten or rebalance a source. Smooth shapes usually sound more natural than alternating large boosts and cuts.

Control a resonance

Reduce one band while the full mix plays. Compare the bands on either side and stop once the resonance no longer distracts.

Live and monitor correction

Use small, deliberate cuts for recurring room or monitor problems. Avoid copying a correction curve to unrelated rooms or playback systems.

Level-honest comparison

Toggle IN and adjust Output until bypassed and processed levels are close. A louder EQ setting can appear better even when the curve is not helping.

If the result is unexpected

The spectrum moves but the tone does not change. Confirm IN is engaged and that the correct plug-in instance is in the monitored signal path.

The result sounds phasey or unnatural. Reduce extreme adjacent boosts and cuts and rebuild the curve with smaller, smoother moves.

The processed signal clips. Reduce boosted bands or lower Output. Check the level entering the next plug-in and the DAW channel meter.

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 THE 31 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.

The Native edition is free and does not require a plug-in licence key.

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.