BOOTILITY

USER GUIDE 1.0.0

A compact stereo toolkit for width, low-end focus, level and channel checks. Use the plugin for detailed control or the supplied Ableton rack for quick access to the main functions.



Compact view / example settings.

YOUR FIRST MINUTE

01 / Start neutral

Use WIDTH mode at 0%, GAIN at 0 dB, centred BALANCE and CHANNEL Stereo. Leave MONO, phase inversion and AUD off.

02 / Shape the image

Raise WIDTH gradually. Enable BASS MONO if you want the lows to stay focused in the centre.

03 / Check the result

Compare in MONO, return to stereo, and check your output meter. BOOTILITY has no limiter.

Overview

A practical guide to the device and its controls.

Start with a clear reference

Follow the quick start, then change one control at a time. The interface images show example settings; use the text to choose a useful starting point.

Work through the controls

Each chapter brings the relevant controls together with a short listening exercise. Use the final reference section when you need a quick check.

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01 / Width and low-end focus

Check the mode: the large knob has two different meanings.



Interface detail / example settings.

WIDTH mode / 0–200%

At 0%, the original stereo passes without added widening; this is the new-instance default. Raising WIDTH adds width even to duplicated mono sources. Above 100%, existing stereo side information also increases. WIDTH 0 is not the MONO switch.

M/S mode / the same large knob

Mid is the shared centre; Side is the difference between left and right. In M/S mode, 0% isolates Mid, 100% is neutral and 200% isolates Side. Check the mode before moving the knob: the two scales do different jobs.

BASS MONO and AUD / 50–3000 Hz

ON reduces stereo information below the selected frequency. Start around 120 Hz and adjust to the source. AUD lets you hear the mono bass region alone; switch it off to return to the full signal.

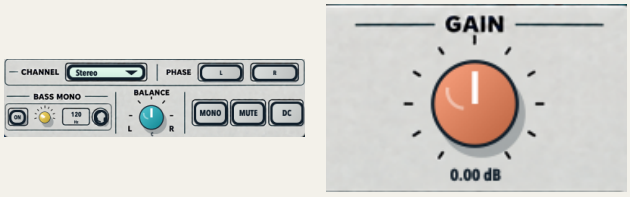
Reset and window size

The plugin scales proportionally down to 300 × 200. A double-click on WIDTH recalls 100%, even though a new instance starts at 0%. Check the displayed value when returning to a neutral WIDTH-mode comparison.

TRY IT
Compare the same passage at WIDTH 0 and with gentle widening. Then check MONO. In M/S mode, return to 100% for a neutral comparison; WIDTH mode uses 0%.

02 / Level and channel checks

Small routing changes can have a large audible effect.



Interface detail / example settings.

GAIN and BALANCE

GAIN adjusts level from -35 to +35 dB, with 0 dB neutral. BALANCE attenuates one side to shift the balance; the centre position preserves both. Positive gain can exceed 0 dBFS: there is no output limiter.

CHANNEL and PHASE L / R

Stereo uses both inputs. Left or Right copies that input to both outputs. PHASE L / R reverses the polarity of the selected channel. Use these for checks or corrections; they do not automatically improve the stereo image.

MONO, MUTE and DC

MONO sums the image to the centre. MUTE silences the output. DC applies a gentle 5 Hz high-pass filter to remove very slow offsets. Return to your intended listening mode after diagnostic checks.

Why is the sound thin, quiet or missing?

Check MUTE, GAIN, BALANCE, CHANNEL and AUD first. In M/S mode at 200%, a mono source has no Side to play. Single-channel polarity inversion can also cause cancellation when summed to mono.

The image changes when summed to mono

Use MONO as a check, then return to STEREO. Reduce widening or revisit channel polarity if important material disappears. BASS MONO can steady the low end, but it is not a general repair for phase problems.

TRY IT
Check MUTE and AUD before adjusting gain. Return polarity to normal and balance to the centre for a neutral starting point. Watch the output meter when adding positive gain.

03 / Use the Ableton rack

Seven macros bring the everyday controls into one compact rack.

Ableton rack / seven visible macros

The supplied BOOTILITY.adg exposes WIDTH, GAIN, BASS MONO, M/S, BALANCE, INPUT PHASE and MUTE. BASS MONO at 0 is off; values above it enable the function and set frequency. Use the plugin window for the remaining controls.

STEREO / MONO / clickable states

The rack's STEREO and MONO Macro Variations switch the mono state. They are configured to leave the other controls alone. This is separate from the CHANNEL Stereo/Left/Right selector inside the plugin.

INPUT PHASE

The rack uses one three-state control: Invert L, Neutral or Invert R. Return it to Neutral for normal listening. The plugin window also retains individual PHASE L / R controls.

Rack changes do not appear

Older rack instances in saved Live sets keep their own mappings and state. Load the current supplied rack afresh to get the seven macros and clickable STEREO/MONO states. Save the updated set once you are happy.

TRY IT
Load the current BOOTILITY.adg afresh if a saved rack still has old mappings. Try the STEREO and MONO variations while keeping the other macro settings unchanged.