

# BC-1 Bass Compressor User Manual

Thank you for choosing the BC-1 Bass Compressor. This plugin is a compressor specifically designed for bass. With its automatic configuration driven by audio learning, it helps you create professional bass sounds intuitively and quickly.

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## 1. System Requirements & Installation

- **Supported Format:** VST3 (Windows 64-bit)
  - **Installation:** Run the downloaded installer file (.exe) and follow the on-screen instructions. After installation, restart your DAW and rescan plugins to see it in your plugin list.
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## 2. License Activation

To unlock the full features, activation via a serial key is required. You cannot adjust parameters until the plugin is activated.

1. When you launch the plugin, the activation screen will appear. (If it's already running and locked, click anywhere on the screen).
  2. Enter the serial key provided upon purchase (e.g., `BC1ABCD12342026` ) and click **Unlock**.
  3. Once activated, the screen unlocks, and all features become available.
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## 3. Basic Controls

This plugin features 5 main intuitive knobs.

- **Threshold [-60.0 dB ~ 0.0 dB]** The reference level at which compression begins. The lower the value, the sooner compression starts on quieter signals.
  - **Attack [0.1 ms ~ 100.0 ms]** The time it takes to reach the set Ratio after the signal exceeds the Threshold. Set it slower (longer) to preserve the bass attack (e.g., picking or slap transients).
  - **Release [10.0 ms ~ 1000.0 ms]** The time it takes for compression to stop after the signal drops below the Threshold. If too short, it may cause unnatural pumping; if too long, compression remains until the next note. *(Automated when using the AUTO function)*
  - **Ratio [1.0:1 ~ 20.0:1]** Determines how much the signal exceeding the Threshold is compressed. Higher values mean stronger compression. For bass, 2:1 to 5:1 is standard.
  - **Output [-24.0 dB ~ +24.0 dB]** Adjusts the final output volume after all processing. Use this to compensate for volume lost due to compression. *(Automated when using the AUTO function)*
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## 4. Auto / Smart Features

### 4.1. AUTO Switches (Auto Release & Auto MakeUp)

Turning on the "AUTO" buttons below the knobs enables optimal automatic processing. **We generally recommend keeping both turned ON.**

- **Auto Release (Center, below Release)** Continuously monitors the intensity of your bass playing (gain reduction amount) and automatically adjusts the release time to the optimal length. It releases quickly after hard hits and leaves a smooth trail for gentle playing. When enabled, the Release knob is ignored.
- **Auto MakeUp (Right, below Output)** Automatically calculates the volume lost due to compression and raises it to an appropriate level. When enabled, the Output knob is ignored.

## 4.2. COMP MODE / PLAY STYLE / ATTACK MODE (Bottom Settings)

These three modes determine the character of the settings suggested by the LEARN function.

- **ATTACK MODE (below Attack):** Determines the "speed and character" of the attack.
  - **FAST:** Instantly crushes transients for a flat, stable sound.
  - **MEDIUM:** Preserves some attack for a natural punch.
  - **SLOW:** Lets the attack pass through maximally, emphasizing impact.
- **PLAY STYLE (bottom left of LEARN):** Optimized for your playing technique.
  - **FINGER:** Optimized for fingerstyle. Provides thickness with a smooth release.
  - **SLAP:** Optimized for slap bass. Quick release and slightly stronger ratio to highlight the attack.
  - **PICK:** Optimized for picking. Tight and solid cohesion.
- **COMP MODE (bottom right of LEARN):** Determines the "intensity" of the compressor.
  - **SOFT:** Shallow compression, retaining natural nuances.
  - **NORMAL:** Standard compression strength.
  - **HARD:** Deep compression for maximum sound pressure.

## 4.3. LEARN Function (AI Auto Setup)

Listens to your performance and automatically applies the optimal knob settings based on your current **PLAY STYLE** and **MODE**.

1. Click the **LEARN** button in the center of the plugin. An animation will start.
  2. Play the track where your bass is recorded.
  3. Continue playing the track for a few seconds, ideally focusing on the most intense part (like a chorus).
  4. Once enough data is collected, the animation stops, and the AI instantly moves the 4 knobs (Threshold, Ratio, Attack, Release) to their optimal positions.
  5. *Note: If the input volume is too low, the analysis won't complete. In that case, increase the input volume or play for a longer duration.*
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## 5. Meters

- **Left Meter (Input):** The volume of the incoming bass signal. (-60 to 0 dB)
- **Right Meter (GR : Gain Reduction):** Shows how much the compressor is "reducing" the volume, moving from right to left. (0 to 30 dB)

## 6. License and Support

Redistribution or sharing of this plugin is strictly prohibited. For license management, bug reports, or support, please visit the AIDE AUDIO User Dashboard or our Support Page ( <https://aideaudio.com/support> ).