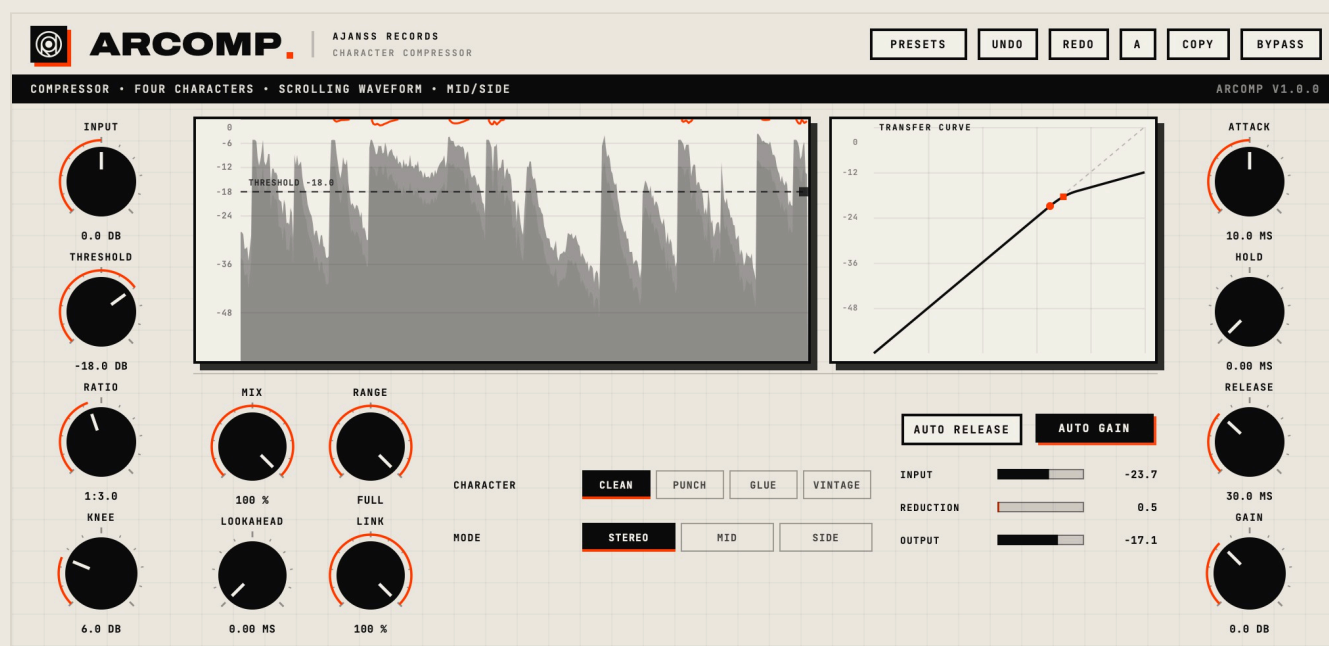


AJANSS RECORDS

ARCOMP

CHARACTER COMPRESSOR



VERSION
1.0.0

FORMATS
AU • VST3

PLATFORMS
macOS • WINDOWS

DOCUMENT
USER GUIDE

01 WHAT IT DOES

ARCOMP is a full-featured compressor with four detector characters and a scrolling waveform that draws the threshold as a line through the material, so you set it by looking at the signal instead of guessing from a number. It works in stereo, mid or side, with adjustable stereo link, hold, range and lookahead.

02 INSTALLING

macOS

Run **ARCOMP Installer.pkg** and follow the steps. You can choose which formats to install, and whether to install for every user or only for yourself. The package is not notarised by Apple yet, so the first time you open it macOS may refuse: right-click the installer, choose **Open**, then confirm. This is only needed once.

Windows

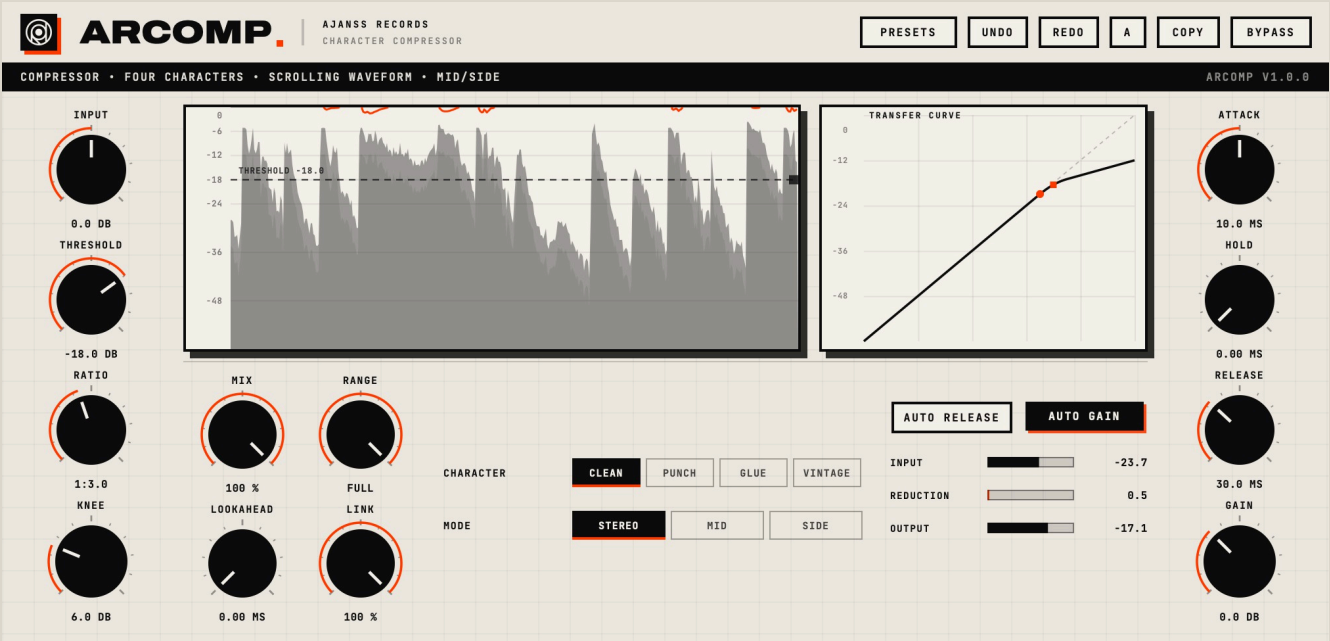
Run **ARCOMP Installer.exe** and follow the steps. The plugin is placed in the shared VST3 folder. The installer is not code-signed yet, so SmartScreen may warn you: click **More info**, then **Run anyway**. This is only needed once.

After installing

Rescan the plugin list in your DAW. ARCOMP appears under **Ajanss Records > ARCOMP**.

Requirements – macOS 10.13 or newer, Intel or Apple Silicon (universal binary). Windows 10 or newer, 64-bit. Formats: Audio Unit and VST3 on macOS, VST3 on Windows.

03 THE INTERFACE



SCROLLING WAVEFORM	The incoming signal with the threshold drawn across it. Drag the line to set the threshold – whatever pokes above it is what gets compressed.
TRANSFER CURVE	Input against output, with the knee and the current operating point marked.
CHARACTER	Four detector behaviours.
MODE	Stereo, mid only or side only.
METERS	Input, gain reduction and output.

04 PARAMETERS

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	WHAT IT DOES
INPUT	-12.0 ... +12.0 dB	0.0 dB	Level into the detector. Raising it is another way to compress harder.
THRESHOLD	-60.0 ... 0.0 dB	-18.0 dB	Where compression starts. Draggable directly on the waveform.
RATIO	1:1.0 ... 1:20.0 / LIMIT	1:3.0	How much of what passes the threshold is held back. At the maximum it reads LIMIT.
ATTACK	0.05 ... 250 ms	10.0 ms	How fast it clamps down. Short attacks flatten transients, long ones let them through.
RELEASE	5 ... 2500 ms	120 ms	How fast it lets go.
AUTO RELEASE	on / off	off	Release follows the material – fast for transients, slow for sustained parts. Useful on a bus.
HOLD	0 ... 250 ms	0.00 ms	Keeps the gain reduction in place before release starts. Stops fast material from making the compressor chatter.
RANGE	0.0 ... 24.0 dB / FULL	FULL	A ceiling on how much gain reduction is allowed. Below the maximum it limits how far the compressor can go.
KNEE	0.0 ... 24.0 dB	6.0 dB	How gradually the ratio comes in around the threshold.
GAIN	-12.0 ... +24.0 dB	0.0 dB	Make-up gain.
AUTO GAIN	on / off	off	Estimates the make-up gain from threshold and ratio.
MIX	0 ... 100 %	100 %	Parallel compression. Below 100 % the uncompressed signal comes back in.
CHARACTER	CLEAN / PUNCH / GLUE / VINTAGE	CLEAN	CLEAN is transparent and fast. PUNCH lets more transient through. GLUE is slow and gentle for buses. VINTAGE is program-dependent and coloured.
MODE	STEREO / MID / SIDE	STEREO	Compress the whole signal, only the centre, or only the sides.
LINK	0 ... 100 %	100 %	How much the two channels share a detector. At 0 % they compress independently, which can pull the image around.
LOOKAHEAD	0.00 ... 5.00 ms	0.00 ms	Delays the audio against the detector so fast attacks catch a peak before it arrives. Adds the same amount of latency, reported to the host.
BYPASS	on / off	off	Passes the input through untouched.

05 PRESETS

Open the browser with **PRESETS**. It has two categories: **FACTORY**, which ships with the plugin, and **USER**, which is yours. Click a preset to load it, or browse with the keyboard.

↑ ↓	Move through the list. The highlighted preset loads as you go, so you can audition the whole bank without clicking.
← →	Switch between FACTORY and USER.
ESC	Close the browser.
SAVE	Type a name in the field and press SAVE to store the current settings as a user preset.
RENAME • DELETE	Act on the selected user preset. Factory presets cannot be changed or removed.

Factory bank — 13 presets

VOCAL SMOOTH	PARALLEL CRUSH
VOCAL UP FRONT	ACOUSTIC GENTLE
DRUM BUS GLUE	SYNTH PUMP
KICK PUNCH	PODCAST VOICE
SNARE CRACK	VINTAGE WARMTH
BASS EVEN	SAFETY LIMIT
MASTER GLUE	

06 STARTING POINTS

Rough settings to work from, not destinations. Every one of them assumes you will move it once you hear the source.

Vocal that sits still

CLEAN, THRESHOLD so the meter shows 3-6 dB, RATIO 1:3, ATTACK 10 ms, AUTO RELEASE on.

Punchy drum bus

PUNCH, RATIO 1:4, ATTACK 25 ms, RELEASE 120 ms, MIX 70 %.

Bus glue

GLUE, RATIO 1:2, KNEE 12 dB, 1-2 dB of reduction only.

Control the sides

MODE SIDE, RATIO 1:2, gentle threshold.

07 SUPPORT

For questions, bug reports and feature requests, please reach us on Instagram at [@ajanssrecords](#). Please include your operating system, your DAW and its version, the plugin format you are using, and the plugin version shown in the top right of the window.

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