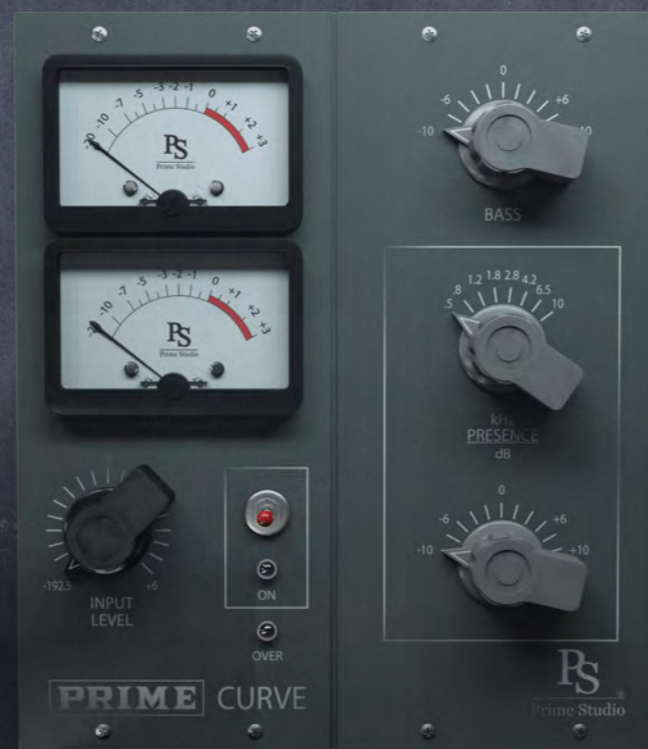


# Prime Studio® Sparkle Series

Mix

Curve

Comp



Manual & Tips

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All informations in this manual are subject to change without notice.

Did you ever wonder  
how to get to this typical sound of this British Studio ?

Yes, you just buy their console & engineer  
OR

You stay with YOUR favourite DAW & get ready for the SPARKLE !

# Sparkle Series

## THE "CROSSWALK" SOUND

# Prime Studio® - SPARKLE SERIES

Offers you measured sound characteristics of this rare vintage analog desk.

Harmonic Saturation - Analog Pressure - Pure Sound

The Sparkle Series of Prime Studio Plugins gives you  
more than just one Console Channel

The Sparkle Series gives you the complete analog chain  
of a historical console at your fingertips

It's probably the most unique sounding plug-in you've ever used.

## Prime Studio® - SPARKLE SERIES

Specialized in offering rare and unique analog vintage equipment to our customers for their productions at Prime Studio® it was obvious going a step further presenting sparkling sound in the digital domain too.

Collaborating with one of the audio industry's leading audio plug-in developers, Acustica Audio, Prime Studio® now offers special versions of highly sought after analog vintage audio devices having already shaped the sound of countless international hit recordings across the music genres.

Inspired by the unique sound of this British console design Prime Studio® offers three different versatile tools bringing this vintage sparkle in your productions whether you are in the studio or producing your tunes anywhere around the world.

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# System Requirements

## Minimum system requirements:

PC: Multicore CPU, 64bit operating system (min. Windows 7), 8 GB RAM, 500MB HDD, 1024x768 screen resolution, VST2 64bit compatible audio host. AAX 64Bit operating system and DAW (PT 11 or higher).

MAC: Dual Core CPU, 64 bit operating system (min. OS X 10.9 - Mavericks), 8 GB RAM, 500MB HDD, 1024x768 screen resolution, VST/AU 64bit compatible audio host. AAX 64Bit operating system and DAW (PT 11 or higher).

## Recommended system requirements:

PC: Latest multicore CPU (Intel Xeon v3 or Intel i7 generation 4 or 6 or newer is recommended.), latest 64bit operating system, 16 GB - 128 GB RAM, 500MB HDD, 1920x1080 screen resolution, VST2/AAX 64bit compatible audio host.

MAC: **M processor compatible!** Latest multicore CPU (Intel Xeon v3 or Intel i7 generation 4 or 6 or newer is recommended.), latest 64bit operating system, 16 GB - 128 GB RAM, 500MB HDD, 1920x1080 screen resolution, VST2/AU/AAX 64bit compatible audio host

# Important...

- Please be sure to run the latest „Aquarius“ for installation & authorization of your plug-ins with administration rights on your system.
- Prime Studio® plug-ins work with AU (Audio Units), VST (designed by Steinberg) and AAX (AVID Pro Tools) audio plug-in standards.
- Plug-ins have been tested on MAC with: Ventura, OS Yosemite, OS El Capitan, OS Sierra, Avid Pro Tools 2023-6.0, Apple Logic ProX (AU), Steinberg (Wavelab, Nuendo), Ableton
- Plug-Ins have been tested on PC/Win with: Windows 10, Avid Pro Tools 11/12, Steinberg (Wavelab, Nuendo)
- The number of simultaneously usable instances depends on the performance of the particular computer system.
- Plug-in can be used on individual tracks, busses, or the master bus, depending on which type of plug-in is needed for your specific workflow.
- Using multiple plug-in instances in a session increases the need of CPU power. Therefore higher latencies may occur.
- Some plug-ins contain different versions. The standard version serves the highest audio quality and needs more CPU resources. The „ZL“ (ZERO-LATENCY) version is meant for use in recording situations where lowest latencies are needed.
- The „LIVE“ version is available for some dynamic tools like compressors or limiters only. Compared to the standard and „ZL“ versions it differs in sound as the preamp stages used to shape your tracks with harmonic distortion are deactivated. This leads to lower latencies and less CPU loads.

# Prime Mix

Having taken the highest effort to capture every sonic detail of the original transistor based sound, Prime Mix offers you the unique tone of three different channel pairs of classic British console design.

Input stages, musical high pass filters, bass equalizers, pan and fader are at your fingertips to blend the desired amount of vintage sparkle to your tracks whether used as insert in single channels, busses or even the master bus.

Input Circuit & Output Stage are measured as well, you can drive it like a guitar amp & add harmonic distortion or just the audiophile flavour of the hand wired circuit



# Prime Mix

## Overview

Input metering



Output metering



Input Stage  
(Preamp)



Bypass Switch

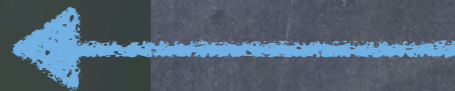


Equalizer

Nice to combine with Prime Curve



Pan



Channel Selector



ECO Button



Fader

Output Stage



# Prime Mix

## Function and Tips

### Meters

Yes, they work, but its always better to listen than to watch. Nobody pays for a good looking mix but for a good sounding mix.



### Pan

Not usual in a plug-in, but measured..

### Channels

Measured channels 1 to 6 Slightly differences in sound - just as the beauty is... Handwired.

### ECO Mode

If active, the harmonics stage of the plug-in is turned off.

This means the harmonics stage will not get loaded & the plug-in is less cpu intensive.

### In & Out Stage

We measured the harmonic distortion of these stages. (Like a guitar amp - input & output stage...)

# Prime Compressor 3

Due to its characteristically sounding compression, one of the rarest and highest sought after dynamic tools in the analog domain has been measured for Prime Compressor.

Yet having an easy and fast to set up tool that gives your tracks the warmth and punch only analog vintage gear can offer.

Now you have the spice available that has been missing in your sound kitchen.

Offering total control over input and output signals and compression by vintage style VU metering, you can fine trim your sound using makeup gain, hold and recovery controls as well as switching the unit from acting as a compressor or limiter.

Single channel treatment, parallel compression, sum compression or even mastering. It is your choice how to add that sparkle glue to your tunes with Prime Compressor.

# Prime Compressor

## Overview

Input Meters

Output Meters

Input Stage

ECO Switch

Reduction Meter

Comp off  
Compressor - Limiter

Hold-Time

Recovery-Time

Make up gain

Bypass Switch



# Prime Compressor

## Function and Tips



### Meters

Just more boring meters...  
Top = In  
Bottom = Out

### Input Level

Maybe you can use it as a threshold..

### ECO Mode

If active, the harmonics stage of the plug-in is turned off.

This means the harmonics stage will not get loaded & the plug-in is less cpu intensive.

### The Switch

"Out" is not a bypass, its like the signal running through the channel without comp & limit stage.

### Comp/Limiter

No threshold, no attack, no real ratio  
The input level is your threshold, the hold function does exactly what is says.

Thats how it works on the original.

### Make up gain...

It's hard to get it to clipping. Sparkle happens here..

### Recovery

Recovery times of 0.1, 0.25, 0.5, 1, 2, 5 Seconds

# Prime Curve

Even just passing signal through it, you will hear the pleasing sonic treatment of your tracks.

Giving more flexibility when equalizing, Prime Curve offers you additional frequency bands adding soothing harmonics when shaping your preferred sounds.

# Prime Curve

## Overview

Input Meters

Output Meters

Bypass Switch

Input Stage  
(Preamp)

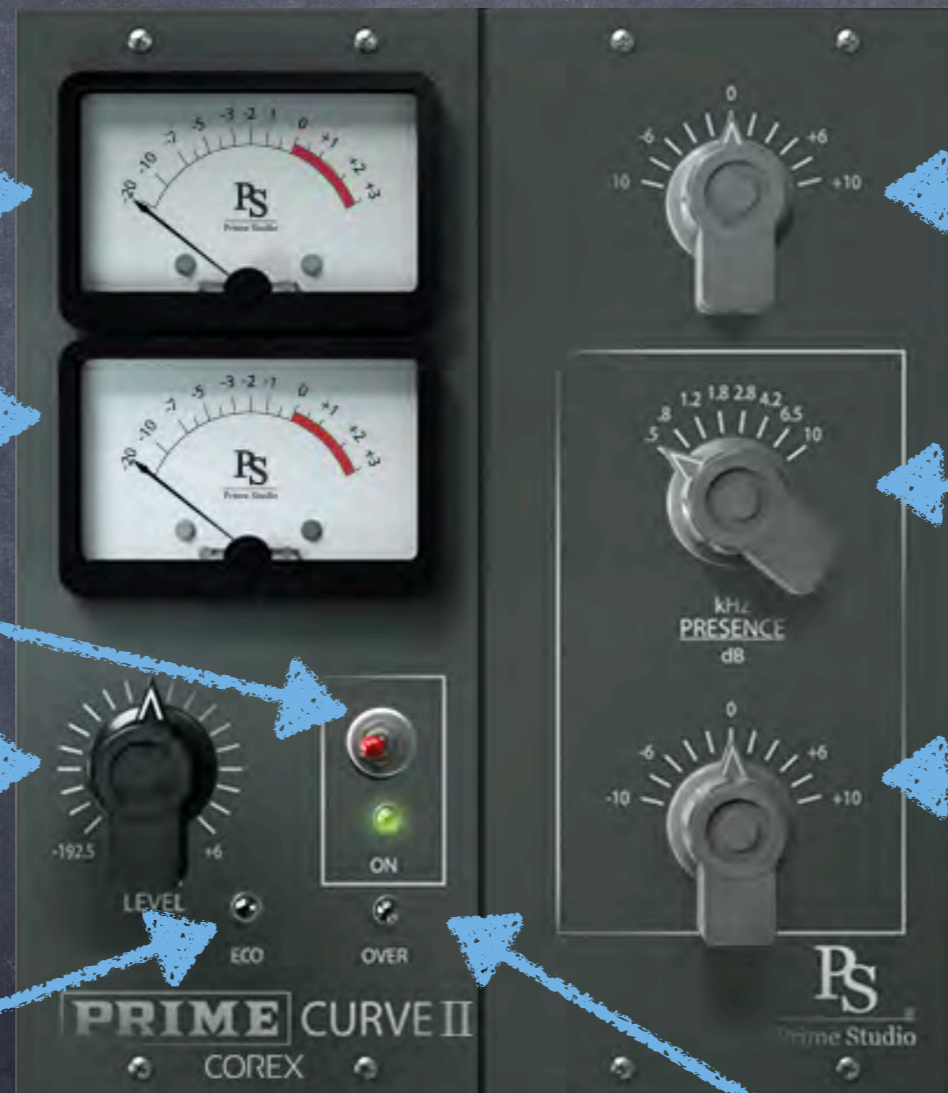
ECO Switch

Bass Lift / Cut

EQ Frequency

What do you think?

Overload LED



# Prime Curve

## Function and Tips

### Meters

Getting tired - writing about meters is not my favourite



### Bass Lift / Cut

This provides a flat position and five 2dB steps of lift or cut.



"Although it is called bass control, the frequency of half lift or cut is actually 500 Hz."

### Mid EQ Frequency

nothing special here... ^^



### Mid EQ Gain

this one is complicated.. ;)



### ECO Mode

If active, the harmonics stage of the plug-in is turned off.



This means the harmonics stage will not get loaded & the plug-in is less cpu intensive.

### OVER ...

still plenty of headroom when it turns red  
As long as it sounds good.. WHO CARES?





# Not Unimportant...

Feel free and check out our complete product range  
and get your free 30 day trials here:

Free Trials

&

unreleased plug-ins

# FAQ...

## What do I have to do after purchasing a plug-in?

Please download the installation tool „Aquarius“ from the download section of our website. You can find „Aquarius“ in “Account -> Download” (top right of our website). After installation please log in to „Aquarius“ using your Prime Studio customer account credentials. In the „Purchased“ section click on the plug-in you want to install / activate and you are all set. „Aquarius“ will take care of everything else for you.

With Aquarius you can install, activate, deactivate & uninstall the Plug-ins.

## How do I choose between the Mac & PC trial version?

You will find PC and Mac trial versions of the plug-ins at [www.primeplugins.com](http://www.primeplugins.com)

## Can I authorize my purchased plug-in with the activation tool on your website?

No, this tool is only for old versions (-> 2018) of our plugins.

## How long does a trial version last and are there any limitations?

The trial versions are good for 30 days without any limitations.

You can install and use trial versions only once on a system.

## Can I authorize / upgrade the trial versions to work as full versions?

No, the trial versions only work during the trial period and can not be updated to a full version license.

# FAQ...

## Do I need an i-Lok for the trial activation?

"Aquarius" will take care of the installation & authorization of your Prime Studio® plug-ins. Full & trial version.

You will find "Aquarius" in your personal Prime Studio® account.

## Can I install plug-ins on an external hard drive to work on different computers?

No, your personal key is hardware and OS related. Don't try to copy & paste your personal key from an old computer to a new one, this will result in failures or crash of your audio host.

You will get the PC and the Mac version of the plug-in you have purchased.

# FAQ...

Where do I find the plug-in folders on my system?

## Mac/OSX paths (fixed paths)

- AAX plug-in folder 32 and 64 bit: OSX HD/Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-ins
- VST plug-in folder 32 bits: OSX HD/Library/Audio/Plugins/VST/Acustica
- VST plug-in folder 64 bits: OSX HD/Library/Audio/Plugins/VST/Acustica64
- AU plug-in folder 32 and 64 bits: OSX HD/Library/Audio/Plugins/Components

## PC/Windows paths

(Non fix paths! This depends on the DAW you use. In the following you see some possible paths)

- AAX plug-in folder 32 and 64 bit: Program Files/Common Files/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins
- VST plug-in folder 32 bits: C:\VSTPlugins\Acustica
- VST plug-in folder 64 bits: C:\VSTPlugins\Acustica64

# Addendum...

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