

Oak Dynamic Tone Shaper - Manual

The Oak is a dynamic tone shaper that blends compression, saturation, and usable EQ into a single, focused tool. It's not an emulation of any one piece of gear, but it carries the soul of the classics. Whether you need glue, grab, grit, or all of the above, Oak delivers strong and fast musical results with just a few carefully tuned controls.



Main Controls

Compression (0–100)

Your main control for compression. This knob simultaneously adjusts multiple compression controls to make dialling in dynamics quick and intuitive.

- Intuitive gain compensation for smooth results
- Lower values offer gentle glue
- Higher values bring aggressive punch and control

Compression Mode (VCA / FET)

Switch between two distinct compression flavours:

- **VCA:** Clean, tight, modern control with a fixed low but tasteful ratio
- **FET:** Snappy, colourful, and bold. Full of character and livens up any source it's used on

Era Switch (Vintage/Modern)

- **Vintage:** Enables a gooey FET-like transformer to add that extra magical character. Think of it somewhere between Rev A and D.
- **Modern:** Cleans up the compressor to a near digital like state but with just enough knock to still maintain it's Swiss army knife status.

Saturation (0–100)

Adds analog-style harmonic drive to the signal. Keep it light to take the edge off or push it into oblivion for totally tasteful destruction.

Saturation Type (Xfmr / Tape)

Pick your flavour:

- **Xfmr:** Thick, vintage transformer-style drive that transports you directly to Shelford
- **Tape:** Warm, and smooth with a touch of top end control for vibey and colourful results

Attack Time (F / M / S)

Variable attack time carefully crafted for each compression algorithm.

- On **VCA**, this allows the compressor to handle everything from snappy DBX-like compression all the way to handling bus compressor duties.
- On **FET**, the fast and medium range allow for that familiar and unmatched grab and aggression. However its attack time is extended even slower to allow flexibility beyond the typical norm of these compressor styles, making it a total grit workhorse.

Punch (-10 to +10)

Shapes transients before compression with a well-tuned transient designer.

- Turn left to soften attacks
- Turn right to enhance snap and presence

Body (-10 to +10)

A wide low-shelf EQ after compression.

- Adds or reduces weight and fullness
- Great for rounding out vocals or drums, perfect for mix bus beef.

Air (-10 to +10)

A beautifully present and clear top end shelf based on a modern classic preamp's **28k** button. Extended beyond its initial functions, this variable silky smooth addition works on nearly every source we threw at it, whether you are boosting or cutting.

- Boost for clarity like you've never heard
- Cut for smoother, darker tones. Perfect for drum rooms.

Canvas Panel Controls

Input / Output

Trim gain into and out of the plugin

Mix

Blends dry and processed signal. Useful for parallel compression or subtle drive layering

Sidechain (SC)

Variable high-pass filter on the detector circuit from 20Hz to 320Hz. Perfect for making sure bass buildup doesn't muddy your compression source.

Oversampling (OS)

Toggle to enable 4x oversampling, reducing aliasing and improving performance under high gain.

HPF / LPF

Gentle high and low pass filters for final tone shaping. Perfect for cleaning up your source post-compression, or even dialling in a tasty lo-fi, gritty effect.

Preset System (Top Center)

Save your favourite presets or pick from a handful of wonderfully crafted starting points.

Resizable UI (Bottom Right)

Variable resizing capability. Resize it bigger or smaller til you're comfy.

License Window (Canvas Audio Logo)

Provides information about plugin version and activating/deactivating your license.