

# Maxim

## World-Class Peak Limiting and Sound Level Maximizing Plug-In for Pro Tools

If you mix in Pro Tools® and want your final audio tracks to have that professionally mastered sheen, add Maxim™ to your list of “must have” plug-ins. More than just a world-class peak limiter, Maxim optimizes the overall level of the audio input while preserving the integrity of the original sound. Although Maxim is ideally suited to the stereo master of a mix, it’s flexible enough to be used as a dynamics processor on any channel in the Pro Tools mixing environment.

Maxim also offers built-in dithering, on-line help, and a full-color Histogram, making it an indispensable plug-in for mixing and mastering in the Pro Tools TDM-based, RTAS or AudioSuite environments.

### ADVANCED SOUND LEVEL PROCESSING

Peak limiting is typically used by audio professionals to increase the overall volume of a track. Traditional limiters raise overall audio levels by (1) applying limiting to the signal and then (2) adding make-up gain back into the signal. Unfortunately, this two-step process often results in distortion or the addition of unwanted artifacts that color the sound of your audio.

Maxim redefines the limiting process by using an advanced, proprietary technique that distinguishes it from analog limiter designs (and digital versions of them). Rather than clipping peaks, Maxim takes advantage of Pro Tools’ non-linear production environment to intelligently process the signal. It looks ahead to anticipate peaks in the audio file and then reduces peaks (relative to the track’s lower level audio) without changing the overall sound quality. The result is transparent or “perfect” peak limiting that preserves the sonic characteristics of the audio in a way that’s not possible with analog limiters.

In addition, Maxim automatically adjusts the overall gain of the audio to meet the ceiling as limiting is applied. In other words, it combines advanced peak limiting (without clipping!) and normalization in a single plug-in — making it easier and more efficient than ever to achieve optimum audio levels.

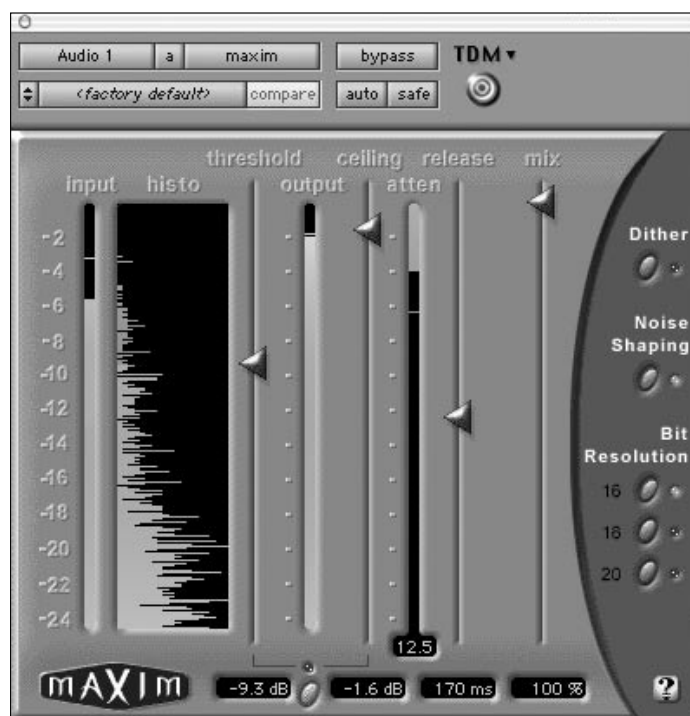
### VISUAL FEEDBACK FOR PRECISE LEVEL CONTROL

Maxim’s graphic user interface, like the Plug-In’s intrinsic design, is brilliantly simple, yet power-fully functional. The most unique aspect of the visual display is a full-color Histogram, which plots input peak dB history during playback. The totals are

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### FEATURES

- High Quality Optimization of Audio Levels
- Advanced, Look-Ahead Peak Limiting
- Full-Color Histogram
- Professional Sound Quality
- TDM, RTAS and AudioSuite Functionality
- On-line Help



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indicated horizontally by distance and color. Unlike a traditional input peak meter, which shows levels bouncing around as each moment passes in real-time, the effect of the Histogram is cumulative. This allows you to easily determine where the energy resides in a song, and provides valuable visual feedback for precise threshold adjustment. Maxim always provides a full graph reading, whether the playback period is 10 seconds or 10 minutes long.

Other features of the display include Plasma-type Input and Output meters (located to the left and right of the Histogram, respectively), a Threshold slider, Output Ceiling, and Attenuation meter.

Each visual element works together to provide the information you need to optimize audio levels. There's even a Link Control that gives you the option of linking the Threshold and Output Ceiling parameters so you can adjust both simultaneously.

### BUILT-IN DITHERING

Since we designed Maxim to be the ideal plug-in for the Master Fader of a Pro Tools session, it made a lot of sense to build a Dithering and Noise Shaping option into it. Dithering improves audio performance and reduces quantization noise when mixing or fading low-level audio signals. This process is often used to maximize sound quality when mastering 24-bit audio to a 16-bit format like CD. With Maxim, you have the option of dithering to 16, 18, or 20-bit for maximum flexibility.

If you use a Pro Tools TDM-based system, the best part about Maxim's Dithering option is that it doesn't require any additional DSP power — so you get even more mileage out of one plug-in insert.

### CONVENIENT ON-LINE HELP

Despite all the features packed into Maxim, we've made it as easy as possible for you to use it right away with professional results. Convenient On-Line Help lets you access quick, easy descriptions of virtually every aspect of the user interface by simply clicking the title of the feature of interest.

### MAXIMIZE YOUR AUDIO LEVELS

You spend hours upon hours recording, editing, and processing your audio tracks. When it comes time to mix, don't settle for run-of-the-mill limiters that may add distortion or color your hard-earned sound. Choose Digidesign's world-class, audio level maximizing solution for Pro Tools: Maxim.

### SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Digidesign-approved Pro Tools system

For the latest Digidesign product information and system requirements, visit [www.digidesign.com](http://www.digidesign.com).

For the latest Development Partner plug-in and software compatibility information, visit [www.digidevelopers.com](http://www.digidevelopers.com).

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