Velvet™ Plug-in

Version 1.0
Legal Notices

This guide is copyrighted ©2008 by Digidesign, a division of Avid Technology, Inc. (hereafter “Digidesign”), with all rights reserved. Under copyright laws, this guide may not be duplicated in whole or in part without the written consent of Digidesign.

003, 003 Rack, 96 I/O, 96i I/O, 192 Digital I/O, 192 I/O, 888|24 I/O, 882|20 I/O, 1622 I/O, 24-Bit ADAT Bridge I/O, AudioSuite, Avid, Avid DNA, Avid Mojo, Avid Unity, Avid Unity ISIS, Avid Xpress, A|Voption, Axiom, Beat Detective, Bomb Factory, Bruno, C|24, Command|8, Control|24, D-Command, D-Control, D-Fi, D-fx, D-Show, D-Verb, DAE, Digi 002, DigiBase, DigiDelivery, Digidesign, Digidesign Audio Engine, Digidesign Intelligent Noise Reduction, Digidesign TDM Bus, DigiDrive, DigiRack, DigiTest, DigiTranslator, DINR, D-Show, DV Toolkit, EditPack, Eleven, HD Core, HD Process, Hybrid, Impact, Interplay, LoFi, M-Audio, MachineControl, Maxim, Mbox, MediaComposer, MIDI I/O, MIX, MultiShell, Nitris, OMF, OMF Interchange, PRE, ProControl, Pro Tools M-Powered, Pro Tools, Pro Tools|HD, Pro Tools LE, QuickPunch, Recti-Fi, Reel Tape, Reso, Reverb One, ReVibe, RTAS, Sibelius, Smack!, SoundReplacer, Sound Designer II, Strike, Structure, SYNC HD, SYNC I/O, Synchronic, TL Aggro, TL AutoPan, TL Drum Rehab, TL EveryPhase, TL Fauxider, TL In Tune, TL MasterMeter, TL Metro, TL Space, TL Utilities, Transfuser, Trillium Lane Labs, Van-Flf Velvet, X-Form, and XM0N are trademarks or registered trademarks of Digidesign and/or Avid Technology, Inc. Xpand! is Registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

Product features, specifications, system requirements, and availability are subject to change without notice.

Guide Part Number 9329-59314-00 REV A 11/08

Documentation Feedback

At Digidesign, we’re always looking for ways to improve our documentation. If you have comments, corrections, or suggestions regarding our documentation, email us at techpubs@digidesign.com.
Appendix A. Velvet Signal Flow .......................................................... 27

Appendix B. Insert Effects ................................................................. 29

Appendix C. Default MIDI Controller Assignments ......................... 35
Chapter 1

Introduction

Velvet™ is an RTAS® plug-in instrument for Pro Tools|HD®, Pro Tools LE™, and Pro Tools M-Powered™ systems brought to you by Digidesign®. Velvet offers vintage electric piano sounds with unprecedented realism, control, and playability.

More convenient than the original: While Velvet sounds and feels as great as a real electric piano, it lacks disadvantages of the original, such as price, maintenance efforts, limited portability, and no MIDI input.

Velvet is not connected with, or approved or endorsed by, the owners of the Fender Rhodes and Wurlitzer trademarks. These names are solely used to identify the electric pianos emulated by this product.

Velvet Features

- Four legendary stage piano models: MK I, MK II, Suitcase, and A200. Velvet revives the legendary sound and feel of three Fender Rhodes® pianos and a Wurlitzer A200 piano.
- Proprietary seamless dynamic modeling technology, based on select, mint-condition originals. Velvet accurately reproduces the sound of legendary electromagnetic pianos with vivid realism.
- Mechanical keyboard noises can be added to the pickup signal, making it feel like the real thing rather than just triggering samples.
- Overall timbre, as well dynamic response and velocity curve, can be adjusted individually to recreate the whole range of electric piano models from various decades.
- In addition to a built-in pre-amp with tube drive, and a 3-band EQ and compressor, the FX section not only features legendary analog effects, including Tape Echo, Analog Chorus/Flanger/Phaser, and Ringmodulator, but also Bit Crusher and Distortion.

Contents of the Boxed Version of Your Plug-in

Your plug-in package contains the following components:

- Installer disc
- Digidesign Registration Information Card
- One of the following authorization cards for authorizing plug-ins with an iLok USB Smart Key (not supplied):
  - Activation Card with an Activation Code (for authorizing plug-ins with an iLok USB Smart Key, not supplied)
  - or –
  - License Card (for authorizing plug-ins with an iLok USB Smart Key, not supplied)

For more information on using plug-ins in Pro Tools, see the Pro Tools Reference Guide.
**System Requirements and Compatibility**

To use Velvet you need the following:

- An iLok USB Smart Key
- An iLok.com account for managing iLok licenses
- One of the following:
  - A Digidesign-qualified Pro Tools|HD system, Pro Tools LE system, or Pro Tools M-Powered system
  - or –
  - A Digidesign-qualified Pro Tools system and a third-party software application that supports the Digidesign RTAS plug-in standards

Digidesign can only assure compatibility and provide support for hardware and software it has tested and approved.

For complete system requirements and a list of Digidesign-qualified computers, operating systems, hard drives, and third-party devices, refer to the latest information on the Digidesign website:

www.digidesign.com/compatibility

**Register Velvet**

If you purchase a plug-in online from the DigiStore (www.digidesign.com) using Internet Activation, you are automatically registered.

If you purchase a boxed version of a plug-in, check the enclosed Digidesign Registration Information Card for information about how to register online.

Registered users receive periodic software update and upgrade notices.

Please refer to the Digidesign website (www.digidesign.com) or the Digidesign Registration Information Card for information on technical support.

**Working with Plug-ins**

Refer to the *Pro Tools Reference Guide* for information on working with plug-ins, including:

- Inserting plug-ins on tracks
- Plug-in Window controls
- Adjusting plug-in controls
- Automating plug-ins
- Using side-chain inputs
- Using plug-in presets
- Clip indicators

For information on using Instrument, Auxiliary Input, and MIDI tracks with instrument plug-ins, see the *Pro Tools Reference Guide*.

For information on configuring Pro Tools for MIDI, see your Getting Started Guide.
Conventions Used in This Guide

All Digidesign guides use the following conventions to indicate menu choices and key commands:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>File &gt; Save</td>
<td>Choose Save from the File menu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control+N</td>
<td>Hold down the Control key and press the N key</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control-click</td>
<td>Hold down the Control key and click the mouse button</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Right-click</td>
<td>Click with the right mouse button</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The names of Commands, Options, and Settings that appear on-screen are in a different font.

The following symbols are used to highlight important information:

💡 User Tips are helpful hints for getting the most from your Pro Tools system.

⚠ Important Notices include information that could affect your Pro Tools session data or the performance of your Pro Tools system.

🔍 Shortcuts show you useful keyboard or mouse shortcuts.

🔗 Cross References point to related sections in this guide and other Digidesign guides.

About www.digidesign.com

The Digidesign website (www.digidesign.com) is your best online source for information to help you get the most out of your Pro Tools system. The following are just a few of the services and features available.

Product Registration Register your purchase online.

Support and Downloads Contact Digidesign Technical Support or Customer Service; download software updates and the latest online manuals; browse the Compatibility documents for system requirements; search the online Answerbase; or join the worldwide Pro Tools community on the Digidesign User Conference.

Training and Education Study on your own using courses available online or find out how you can learn in a classroom setting at a certified Pro Tools training center.

Products and Developers Learn about Digidesign products; download demo software or learn about our Development Partners and their plug-ins, applications, and hardware.

News and Events Get the latest news from Digidesign or sign up for a Pro Tools demo.

Pro Tools Accelerated Videos Watch the series of free tutorial videos. Accelerated Videos are designed to help you get up and running with Pro Tools and its plug-ins quickly.
Chapter 2

Installation

Installing the Velvet Plug-in

The Velvet plug-in installer can be found on the Velvet Install Disc.

Installation

To install the Velvet plug-in:

1. Do one of the following:
   - Download the installer for your computer platform from the Digidesign website (www.digidesign.com). After downloading, make sure the installer is uncompressed (.ZIP on Windows or .SIT on Mac).
   - or –
   - Insert the Installer disc into your computer.

2. Double-click the plug-in installer application.

3. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation of plug-in and content.

4. When installation is complete, click Finish (Windows) or Close (Macintosh).

The Velvet Installer installs the Velvet plug-in in the following location:
- Program Files/Common Files/Digidesign/DAE/Plug-Ins (Windows)
- or –
- /Library/Application Support/Digidesign/Plug-Ins (Macintosh).

Authorizing Velvet

Velvet is authorized using the iLok USB Smart Key (iLok), manufactured by PACE Anti-Piracy, Inc.

During installation you will be asked where to place the plug-in content (waveform data). You need 700 MB of free memory on the selected hard drive to install Velvet.

The iLok is similar to a dongle, but unlike a dongle, it is designed to securely authorize multiple software applications from a variety of software developers.
This key can hold over 100 licenses for all of your iLok-enabled software. Once an iLok is authorized for a given piece of software, you can use the iLok to authorize that software on any computer.

⚠️ The iLok USB Smart Key is not supplied with your plug-in or software option. You can use the one included with certain Pro Tools systems (such as Pro Tools|HD-series systems), or purchase one separately.

For more information, visit the iLok website (www.iLok.com) or see the iLok Usage Guide.

Authorizing Download Versions of Plug-ins for Pro Tools

If you purchased a download version of a plug-in from the DigiStore (www.digidesign.com), authorize the plug-in by downloading licenses from iLok.com to an iLok.

Authorizing Boxed Versions of Plug-ins for Pro Tools

If you purchased a boxed version of a plug-in, it comes with an Activation Code (on the included Activation Card). You will need this code to authorize your plug-in.

To authorize a plug-in using an Activation Code:

1. If you do not have an existing iLok.com account, visit www.iLok.com and sign up for an iLok.com account.

2. Transfer the license for your plug-in to your iLok.com account by doing the following:
   • Visit http://secure.digidesign.com/activation.
   • Input your Activation Code (listed on your Activation Card) and then your iLok.com User ID. Your iLok.com User ID is the name you create for your iLok.com account.

3. Transfer the licenses from your iLok.com account to your iLok USB Smart Key by doing the following:
   • Insert the iLok into an available USB port on your computer.
   • Go to www.iLok.com and log in.
   • Follow the on-screen instructions for transferring your licences to your iLok.

4. Launch Pro Tools.

5. If you have any installed unauthorized plug-ins or software options, you are prompted to authorize them. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the authorization process.
Removing Velvet

If you need to remove the Velvet plug-in from your system, follow the instructions below for your computer platform.

Windows Vista

To remove a plug-in:
1. Choose Start > Control Panel.
2. Double-click Programs and Features.
3. Select the plug-in from the list of installed applications.
4. Click Uninstall.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions to remove the plug-in.

Windows XP

To remove a plug-in:
1. Choose Start > Control Panel.
2. Double-click Add or Remove Programs.
3. Select the plug-in from the list of installed applications.
4. Click Remove.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions to remove the plug-in.

Mac OS X

To remove the Velvet plug-in:
1. Locate and open the Plug-Ins folder on your Startup drive (Library/Application Support/Digidesign/Plug-Ins).
2. Do one of the following:
   • Drag the Velvet plug-in to the Trash and empty the Trash.
   – or –
   • Drag the Velvet plug-in to the Plug-ins (Unused) folder.
3. Drag the content file (Velvet data.big) from the folder to which you installed the Velvet plug-in content to the trash.
4. Empty the trash.
chapter 3

Overview

Velvet is an RTAS plug-in instrument that can be used to add the realistic sound of vintage electric pianos to any Pro Tools session.

Velvet provides four high-quality models of rare and legendary electric pianos. Velvet has been developed to deliver unprecedented realism in terms of sound quality and playability.

Using proprietary technology, Velvet provides all the nuanced details that influence the sound of a vintage electric piano.

A built-in pre-amp and custom equalizer, as well as a multi-effect section with sixteen effects make Velvet the perfect choice for reproducing all kinds of electric piano sounds of the past and present in your Pro Tools session.
Structural Overview

Control Sections

The Velvet interface provides three Control sections. Each section provides parameters that correspond to a certain aspect of creating an electric piano sound in a recording situation.

Piano Front Panel Provides a Piano Model selector, Master Volume control, and Tremolo/Auto-pan controls. You can play Velvet by using MIDI input from a MIDI keyboard, from MIDI data in an Instrument or MIDI track in Pro Tools, or by clicking the 73 keys.

Setup Section Provides control over the basic sound and behavior of the selected electric piano model. You can manipulate and tune Velvet in the Source section—for example, mix in mechanical noises, or adjust the velocity sensitivity.

Preamp/FX Section Provides controls to adjust and shape the electric piano sound using a one-knob Compressor, Tube Drive, Equalizer, and a selection of stomp-box and studio effects.

For more information, see “Setup Section” on page 17.

For more information about the Piano Front panel, see “Piano Front Panel” on page 15.

For more information, see “Preamp, EQ, and FX Section” on page 21.
**Velvet File Types**

**Setting**

A Setting stores the complete state of the Velvet plug-in. A Setting can be loaded and saved by using the Plug-in Settings menu. Velvet’s MIDI controller assignments are saved with the Pro Tools session, not with the setting.

Refer to the Pro Tools Reference Guide for information on working with plug-in settings.

**Electric Piano Models**

Velvet provides four models of legendary electromagnetic pianos. While Velvet offers a large range of options for changing and adjusting the sound, choosing the right piano model is the most important step to achieve the desired sound and feel. Each of the four models has been accurately replicated from selected originals that have been adjusted and modified to perfection. Sound character, playing feel, and behavior is all based on the models.

*SC73* is a model that creates the typical sound of the Rhodes Suitcase 73. The tines are set a soft character with lots of body. This model is ideal for ballads and blends nicely with other instruments. For an accurate suitcase sound, use the Stereo Tremolo on the Piano Front panel (Suitcase tremolo effect) and the “Large” setting of the Cab effects (Suitcase amp/speakers).

Musical styles:
- Jazz, Pop Ballads

Songs famous for featuring this instrument:
- Stevie Wonder—You are the sunshine of my life
- Billy Joel—Just the way you are
- Miles Davis—In a silent way, Bitches brew (Album)
- Bill Withers—Just the two of us

*MK I* is a model of a very dynamic, vintage-style reproduction of a Fender Rhodes piano usually associated with the Mark I. The tines were moved close to the pickup for a full, harmonically rich timbre and a very hard sound at high velocities. Use this model for rhythmic chords and soloing—especially when you want the piano to stick out of the mix or compete against other instruments.

Musical styles:
- Jazz Fusion, Jazz Rock

Songs famous for featuring this instrument:
- Herbie Hancock—Head Hunters (Album)
- Jamiroquai—Space Cowboy
- George Duke—From dusk till dawn
- Chick Corea—Spain

Velvet is not connected with, or approved or endorsed by, the owners of the Fender Rhodes and Wurlitzer trademarks. These names are solely used to identify the electric pianos emulated by this product. References to artists and bands on the following pages are for informational purposes only and do not imply an endorsement or sponsorship of Velvet by such artists or bands.

The model names we used do not refer to the exact original pianos that were studied during the development of Velvet, but rather give you a hint to which kind of Rhodes or Wurlitzer sound is widely associated with the model.
**MK II** is a model of the bright Rhodes piano sound that became famous in the 80s, usually with a condenser upgrade/modification for a very bright sound accentuating the metallic attack of the tines, further improved by tines set close to the pickups. This sound is very often referred to as “Dyno Rhodes.” Used by keyboardists David Foster (often combined with Grand Piano) and Robbie Buchanan.

**Musical styles:**
- Westcoast, Fusion, Pop

**Songs famous for featuring this instrument:**
- Al Jarreau—I will be here for you
- Whitney Houston—Saving all my love for you
- Chicago—Bad advice
- Donald Fagen—Green Flower Street

**A200** is a model of a Wurlitzer electric piano. The Wurlitzer was originally designed as a portable and cheap replacement for a real piano, but it’s aggressive, powerful sound character soon made it the only real competitor to the Rhodes pianos in pop and rock music. Many people refer to it as “the Supertramp” sound. The Wurlitzer can sound very nice and mellow in ballads, but it really excels in power accompaniment and rhythmic chords.

**Musical styles:**
- Blues, Pop, Rock.

**Songs famous for featuring this instrument:**
- Ray Charles—What’d I say
- Marvin Gaye—I heard it through the Grapevine
- Three Dog Night—Mama told me not to come
- Steely Dan—Pretzel Logic
- Pink Floyd—Money
- Supertramp—Dreamer
- Supertramp—Logical Song
chapter 4
Operating Velvet

Adjusting Parameters
You can adjust all controls by using the computer mouse to drag a control. Some controls are adjusted by selecting a value from a pop-up menu or by activating a button.

Parameter Ranges and Resolution
Most controls have a range of 0–100%, or display corresponding values such as Hz or dB. Some controls are bipolar, meaning they support negative values and usually have a range of –100% to +100%.

Using a Mouse
You can adjust controls by clicking and dragging the control’s slider or knob, or by moving over it with the cursor and scrolling up or down with the scroll wheel. Adjust rotary controls by clicking and dragging horizontally or vertically. Parameter values increase as you drag upward or to the right, and decrease as you drag downward or to the left.

Activating Buttons
Some controls are enabled or disabled using buttons.

To enable a button:
- Click the button. Click again to disable it.

Using Switches
Some values or modes are selected using switches.

To select a value using a switch:
- Right-click and drag the Switch to a new position.
  - or -
- Right-click a position on the Switch.
**Keyboard Shortcuts**
- For finer adjustments, hold down Control (Windows) or Command (Macintosh) while moving the control.
- To return a control to its default value, Alt-click (Windows) or Option-click (Macintosh) the control.

**Displaying Values**
Parameter values can be displayed without editing them.

To display the value of a control:
- Hover over the control with the cursor.

**Scroll Wheel on Knobs, Faders, and Menus**
If your mouse has a scroll wheel, you can use it to adjust Velvet parameters.

To change a value with a scroll wheel:
1. Move the cursor over a rotary knob or fader.
2. Scroll the wheel up to increase values. Scroll the wheel down to decrease values.
Chapter 5: Velvet Parameters

Piano Front Panel

The Piano Front panel provides the Piano Model selector, a Master Volume control, Tremolo/Autopan controls, and a Keyboard Extension switch. The 73 keys in the Keyboard section correspond to the keys of a MIDI keyboard and their MIDI notes starting from E0 on the left to E6 on the right. You can play Velvet by clicking keys, using MIDI input from a MIDI keyboard, or from MIDI data in an Instrument or MIDI track in Pro Tools.
Model Selector

Use the Model selector to load one of the four vintage electric piano models.

To load an electric piano model:
- Click the Model selector and select a piano model from the pop-up menu.

Volume

The Volume control on the Piano Front panel is Velvet’s main output to the Pro Tools track on which Velvet is inserted.

Loading a piano model may take several seconds. During the loading process Velvet and Pro Tools remain unresponsive.

Tremolo

Tremolo is a typical vintage effect which was built into some electric pianos. Tremolo is a rhythmic variation in amplitude. Enabling its stereo mode applies a periodic variation of position in the stereo field. Velvet provides Tremolo effects for all models by reproducing the circuits of the Fender Rhodes Suitcase, and the Wurlitzer A200.

On/Off Switch Enables the Tremolo effect.

Mono/Stereo Switch Enables Mono or Stereo Tremolo mode.

Rate Adjusts the speed of the Tremolo effect.

Depth Adjusts the amount of Tremolo applied to the sound.

To set the Tremolo before the FX section in the signal chain:
- Right-click the Tremolo On/Off switch and select Tremolo Before FX from the pop-up menu.

Keyboard Extension Switch

The electric pianos in Velvet have the same key range as the original models (A0–C6 for the A200, E0–E6 for the others) to guarantee authenticity. Use the Key Extension switch to allow notes outside this range to be played.

To extend the model’s keyboard range:
- Set the switch to the Up position.
**Setup Section**

The Setup section provides controls for adjusting Velvet’s basic setup and playing behavior—including adjustment of the Pickup level, mechanical noises, and Key release. You can also set the amount of waveform data loaded into RAM and Velvet’s dynamic response.

**Pickup Level**

The Pickup Level control adjusts the volume of the line signal captured by the instruments pickups. Usually a vintage electric piano is recorded by connecting the instrument’s line out directly to an amp or mixer. The Pickup level control adjusts the amount of this signal. Turn the Pickup Level control to the right to increase the line signal’s volume.

**Mechanics**

The Mechanics controls adjust the type and amount of mechanical noises that occur when playing an electric piano—the sound of keys being pressed, as heard by the player. These sounds are not captured by the Pickups. Velvet is the first virtual electric piano that lets you add original mechanical noise to the sound for increased realism. There are three Mechanics modes.

- **Off** Disables mechanical noises.
- **On** Enables mechanical noises. Move the Mechanics knob to the right to increase the amount of mechanical noises.
- **Open** Enables mechanical noise, modelling the sound of an electric piano with the lid removed. Move the Mechanics knob to the right to increase the amount of mechanical noise.
To make the Mechanics signal bypass the FX section:

- Right-click the Mechanics switch and select FX Bypass to send the Mechanics signal directly to Velvet’s output, bypassing the FX section. In this mode only the Pickup signal passes through the FX section.

> Set the Mechanics control to On, and turn the Pickup Level control all the way down to hear the sound of a switched-off vintage electric piano.

**Key Off**

The Key Off controls adjust the type and volume of noise that occurs when releasing keys. The Key Off selector provides three modes.

- **Off** Disables key release noise.
- **On** Enables key release noise. Use the Key Off knob to adjust the level of key release noise.
- **Stacc (Staccato)** Enables key release noise with a special behavior when short notes are played. Playing staccato notes on a real electric piano keeps the dampers from cutting off the note as fast as normal, resulting in a different release sound.

- **Key Off Level** Adjusts the amount of key release noise.

> The Key Off level also depends on the settings of Pickup and Mechanics controls.

**Pedal Noise**

Velvet lets you add the noise of the sustain pedal captured by the Pickups and the mechanical noise of the pedal action audible for the player sitting at the piano.

To enable pedal noise:

- Right click the Key Off control and select Pedal Noise from the pop-up menu.

> The volume of pedal noise is adjusted by the Pickup Level knob (amount of pedal noise captured by the pickups), and the Mechanics Level knob (amount of pedal noise heard by the player).

**Condition**

The Condition control artificially ages the selected electric piano model. Turning the control to the right, introduces note-to-note deviations in tuning and dynamic response, simulating an old electric piano in need of service.
Mem (Memory Selector)

Use this control to adjust the amount of waveform data Velvet loads into your computer’s RAM.

Eco  Is the smallest possible load size. Eco uses fewer system resources, but also limits the range of expression available.

Mid  Provides a good balance between system load and range of expression.

XXL  Is the default load size. XXL, the largest possible load size, provides the maximum range of expression available, but also places the greatest demands on system resources.

Fine Tune

The Fine Tune control adjusts the tuning of Velvet. The maximum tuning deviation is 2 semitones up or down. Move the control to the right to raise and to the left lower the tuning.

💡 Assign the Fine Tune control to your MIDI keyboard’s Pitchbend wheel for pitch bend effects.

Velo Curve (Velocity Curve)

Use the Velo Curve sliders to adjust Velvet’s velocity sensitivity. The four sliders from the left to the right represent Velvet’s velocity response from low to high.

For a wide dynamic range:

- Set the Velocity Sliders as follows.

For no response to velocity:

- Set the Velocity Sliders as follows.

For a normal response (default):

- Set the Velocity Sliders as follows.
**Velo Response (Velocity Response)**

The Velocity Response controls adjust the range of volume and timbre available when playing at different velocities.

**Volume** Adjusts the range of volume available. Move the control to the left to reduce the variation in volume when playing from low to high velocities. Move the control to the right to increase the range.

**Timbre** Adjusts the range of timbre available. Move the control to the left to reduce the variation in timbre when playing from low to high velocities. Move the control to the right to increase the range.

💡 MIDI keyboards can have different velocity response behavior. Use these parameters to adjust Velvet to the maximum velocity output of your MIDI keyboard.

**Timbre**

The Timbre control changes the overall sound of the selected electric piano model. Turn the control to the left for a soft, mellow sound, turn it to the right for a hard, bright sound. Used in combination with the Velocity Response controls, you can achieve any range of timbral response.
Preamp, EQ, and FX Section

Preamp Section Controls

In the Preamp section there are controls to adjust Velvet’s sound using a compressor, tube overdrive, and a three-band equalizer with a parametric mid band. Velvet’s signal passes through the Preamp section into the FX section.

Comp (Compressor)

The Compressor control adjusts Velvet’s dynamics using a soft-knee compressor. Turn the Compressor control to the left to accentuate the attacks, and to the right to boost the signal’s sustain phase.

Tube Drive

The Tube Drive control adds harmonics and compression to the signal, emulating the behavior of a tube preamp responding dynamically to the input level. Move the control to the right to increase the Tube Drive amount.

Equalizer Section Controls

The three-band Equalizer provides a low band, a high band, and a parametric mid band for adjusting Velvet’s tone.

To enable/disable the Equalizer:

- Click the Equalizer button. The button is lit when enabled.

Bass

The Bass control adjusts the amount of low frequencies using a vintage shelf equalizer curve. Turn the control to the left to attenuate, and to the right to boost low frequencies.
**Parametric Mid Band**

**Freq** Adjusts the center frequency of the mid band.

**Mid** Adjusts the level of frequencies around the center frequency. Turn the control to the left to attenuate, or to the right to boost the selected frequencies.

**Q Value** Adjusts the range of frequencies to be boosted or attenuated. Turn the control to the left for a wide bell shape. Turn it to the right for a narrow peak or notch.

**Treble**

The Treble control adjusts the amount of high frequencies using a vintage shelf equalizer curve. Turn the control to the left to attenuate, and to the right to boost high frequencies.

**EQ Level**

The EQ Level control rebalances the volume of Velvet’s signal to compensate for level changes caused by the Equalizer. Turn the EQ Level control to the left to attenuate, and to the right to boost the signal before it is sent to the FX section.
Chapter 5: Velvet Parameters

FX (Effects) Section

In the FX section, Velvet provides five categories of classic vintage effects. You can select one effect from each category at a time. Taking a look at Velvet's signal flow, the FX section is placed after Setup and Preamp/Equalizer section, passing the signal to the Master Output Volume on the Piano Front panel.

FX Types

There are five Effect inserts corresponding to five effect categories each with up to four effects. Each Effect insert provides an Effect selector and a number of Parameter controls. The Parameter controls in one category always serve similar functions no matter which effect is selected.

Dist (Distortion)

- Fuzz
- Overdrive
- Crush

Wah

- LFO (Low Frequency Oscillator controlled)
- Env (Envelope)
- Env LP (Envelope Lowpass)

Mod (Modulation)

- Chorus
- Flanger
- Phaser 1
- Phaser 2

Cab (Cabinet)

- Small
- Large
- Amp

Del (Delay)

- Mono
- Stereo
- Tape

See Appendix B, “Insert Effects” for detailed information about the effects, their parameters and descriptions.
Using the FX Section

To display an Effect insert and its controls:

- Click the Insert selector. If the Effect insert is already selected, clicking the Insert selector enables or disables the insert.

To select an Effect:

- Click and drag the Mode selector.

To enable/disable an Insert

- Click the Insert button. The Insert button is lit when enabled.

To globally enable/disable the FX section:

- Click the FX button. The FX button is lit when the FX section is enabled.

To position the Wah before the Fuzz effect in the signal chain:

- Right-click the Wah Mode selector and select Wah Before Fuzz from the pop-up menu.

To position the Tremolo before the FX section in the signal chain:

- Right-click the Tremolo On/Off switch and select Tremolo Before FX from the pop-up menu.
MIDI Controller Mapping

Velvet lets you assign standard MIDI controllers to virtually any parameter so that you can control Velvet from a MIDI controller in real-time.

To assign a MIDI controller to a parameter:

1. Right-click (Windows or Mac) or Control-click (Mac) a control.

2. Do one of the following:
   - Select the desired MIDI controller from the Assign submenu.
   - Or –
   - Choose Learn, and move the desired control on your MIDI controller. The parameter is automatically assigned to that control.

To un-assign a MIDI controller:

1. Right-click (Windows or Mac) or Control-click (Mac) a rotary control or fader.

2. From the pop-up menu, choose Forget.

See Appendix C, “Default MIDI Controller Assignments” for detailed information about preset MIDI controllers.
Appendix A: Velvet Signal Flow

- Mechanics FX Bypass (right-click Mechanics switch)
- "Tremolo Before FX" option (right-click Tremolo On/Off switch)
- "Wah Before Fuzz" option (right-click Wah Mode selector)

- Pickup
- Tremolo
- Distortion (DIST)
- Fuzz (FUZZ)
- Wah (WAH)
- Crush (CRUSH)
- Ring (RING)
- Modulation (MOD)
- Chorus (CHO)
- Delay (DEL)
- Cabinet (CAB)
- Tremolo (TREM)
- Volume

Appendix A: Velvet Signal Flow 27
# Insert Effects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Effect</th>
<th>Effect Description</th>
<th>Controls</th>
<th>Control Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dist</td>
<td>Fuzz</td>
<td>Transistor distortion, adding odd harmonics</td>
<td>Drive</td>
<td>Drive amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Freq</td>
<td>Tone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Effect mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ring modulator with envelope-controlled frequency</td>
<td>Freq</td>
<td>Carrier frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depth</td>
<td>Envelope modulation of modulator frequency (center = none)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Effect mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crush</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bitcrusher, reducing bit depth and sample rate</td>
<td>Freq</td>
<td>Sample rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depth</td>
<td>Reduce bit depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Effect mix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Wah-wah/Filter effects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Effect</th>
<th>Effect Description</th>
<th>Controls</th>
<th>Control Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wah</td>
<td>LFO</td>
<td>LFO controlled periodic modulation</td>
<td>Pedal</td>
<td>Wah pedal position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>Modulation rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depth</td>
<td>Modulation depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(center = none)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mode</td>
<td>Switches between two Wah types, US (American) and Brit (British)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Env</td>
<td>Env LP</td>
<td>Envelope-modulated lowpass filter</td>
<td>Freq</td>
<td>Wah pedal position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>Envelope tracking speed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depth</td>
<td>Envelope modulation depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mode</td>
<td>Switches between two Filter types, US (American) and Brit (British)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Effect</td>
<td>Effect Description</td>
<td>Controls</td>
<td>Control Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod</td>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td>Stereo pitch modulation effect, softening sounds</td>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>Modulation rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depth</td>
<td>Modulation depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feedback</td>
<td>Feedback amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Effect mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod</td>
<td>Flanger</td>
<td>Sweeping phase-cancelling effect</td>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>Modulation rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depth</td>
<td>Modulation depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feedback</td>
<td>Feedback amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Effect mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod</td>
<td>Phaser 1</td>
<td>Gentle phase shifting effect</td>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>Modulation rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stereo/Mono</td>
<td>Activate to set the modulation waveform 180° out of phase on the left and right channels, to add stereo movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depth</td>
<td>Modulation depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feedback</td>
<td>Feedback amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Effect mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod</td>
<td>Phaser 2</td>
<td>Stronger phase shifting effect</td>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>Modulation rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stereo/Mono</td>
<td>Activate Stereo to set the modulation waveform 180° out of phase on the left and right channels, to add stereo movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Depth</td>
<td>Modulation depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feedback</td>
<td>Feedback amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Effect mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Effect</td>
<td>Effect Description</td>
<td>Controls</td>
<td>Control Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emulation of a small electric piano built-in speaker</td>
<td>Bass</td>
<td>Low frequency tone control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mid</td>
<td>Midrange tone control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Treble</td>
<td>High frequency tone control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amb</td>
<td>Adds natural room ambience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emulation of large electric piano built-in speakers</td>
<td>Bass</td>
<td>Low frequency tone control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mid</td>
<td>Midrange tone control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Treble</td>
<td>High frequency tone control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amb</td>
<td>Adds natural room ambience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amp</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emulation of an open-backed guitar amp</td>
<td>Bass</td>
<td>Low frequency tone control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mid</td>
<td>Midrange tone control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Treble</td>
<td>High frequency tone control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amb</td>
<td>Adds natural room ambience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Effect</td>
<td>Effect Description</td>
<td>Controls</td>
<td>Control Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay</td>
<td>Delay effects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mono</td>
<td>Simple mono echoes</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Delay time (in beats or milliseconds)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feedback</td>
<td>Number of repeats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tone</td>
<td>Progressively damps the high frequencies in each repeat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Effect mix</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sync</td>
<td>Synchronizes the delay repeats to the Session tempo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stereo</td>
<td>Alternating left/right echoes</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Delay time (in beats or milliseconds)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feedback</td>
<td>Number of repeats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tone</td>
<td>Progressively damps the high frequencies in each repeat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Effect mix</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sync</td>
<td>Synchronizes the delay repeats to the Session tempo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tape</td>
<td>Emulation of an analog tape echo machine</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Delay time (in beats or milliseconds)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feedback</td>
<td>Number of repeats, leading to self-oscillation at high settings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tone</td>
<td>Progressively damps the high frequencies in each repeat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mix</td>
<td>Input level to tape</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sync</td>
<td>Synchronizes the delay repeats to the Session tempo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Default MIDI Controller Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Controller</th>
<th>MIDI Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tremolo Depth</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mod Wheel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Breath Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickup Level</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Foot Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Tune</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Glide Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wah Pedal</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Expression Pedal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compression</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Effect Control 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tube Drive</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Effect Control 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay Time</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>General Purpose 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay Feedback</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>General Purpose 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay Tone</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>General Purpose 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay Mix</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>General Purpose 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanics Mode</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanics Level</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQ On/Off</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQ Bass</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQ Mid Frequency</td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQ Mid Gain</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQ Mid Q</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQ Treble</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parameter</td>
<td>Controller</td>
<td>MIDI Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQ Level</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring Frequency</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring Depth</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring Mix</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crush Frequency</td>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crush Depth</td>
<td>54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crush Mix</td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flanger Rate</td>
<td>56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flanger Depth</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flanger Feedback</td>
<td>58</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flanger Mix</td>
<td>59</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phaser Rate</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phaser Depth</td>
<td>61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phaser Feedback</td>
<td>62</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phaser Stereo</td>
<td>63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velocity To Level</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>Sound Variation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velocity To Timbre</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>Resonance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Off Level</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>Release Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Off Mode</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>Attack Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tremolo On/Off</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Cutoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tremolo Mode</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Decay Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tremolo Rate</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>Vibrato Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distortion On/Off</td>
<td>79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distortion Mode</td>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuzz Drive</td>
<td>81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuzz Tone</td>
<td>82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuzz Mix</td>
<td>83</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parameter</td>
<td>Controller</td>
<td>MIDI Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wah On/Off</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wah Mode</td>
<td>86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wah Rate</td>
<td>87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wah Depth</td>
<td>88</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wah Model</td>
<td>89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cab Ambience</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>Effect 1 Level (Reverb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus Mix</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>Effect 3 Level (Chorus)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phaser Mix</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>Effect 5 Level (Phaser)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod On/Off</td>
<td>102</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod Mode</td>
<td>103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus Rate</td>
<td>104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus Depth</td>
<td>105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus Feedback</td>
<td>106</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cab On/Off</td>
<td>107</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cab Mode</td>
<td>108</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cab Bass</td>
<td>109</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cab Mid</td>
<td>110</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cab Treble</td>
<td>111</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay On/Off</td>
<td>112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay Mode</td>
<td>113</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay Sync</td>
<td>114</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velocity Min</td>
<td>115</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velocity Low Mid</td>
<td>116</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velocity High Mid</td>
<td>117</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velocity Max</td>
<td>118</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FX Global On/Off</td>
<td>119</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timbre</td>
<td>Pitchbend</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>