True Mid/Side

True Phantom Center/Stereo Sides Extractor

Audio effect plugin by Raising Jake Studios

True Mid/Side is a unique plugin that extracts the true mid channel ("Phantom center") and stereo sides from a stereo source. True Mid/Side can be used to directly control the Left/Center/Right side balance in a stereo mix and can also be used to export Mid only and Side only stereo stems. No "M/S encoding" or decoding required!

True Mid/Side has 3 stereo outputs (Main, Mid and Side) for DAWs that support plugins with multiple I/O pins (not available in AAX format).

True Mid/Side is a 64-bit VST2, VST3 and AAX plugin for Windows and "Universal Binary" VST2, VST3, AU and AXX plugin for Mac OS 10.11 or higher on Intel and Apple Silicon.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Installing the True Mid/Side plugin is simply a matter of copying and pasting the appropriate files from the True Mid/Side purchased download to the proper folders on your computer.

All RJ Studios plugin files are double zipped. The top-level zip file (download) contains two sub-files for Mac("dmg") and PC (".zip") versions that are independently zipped. This was necessary to preserve the Pace iLok signatures for the AAX plugins for the respective OS systems. Please unzip the Mac or PC sub-files before copying the desired plugin to your folders

FOR PC ("x64 PC zip" folder)
To install the VST3 plugin: make sure your DAW is closed then copy the "TrueMidSide.vst3" file from the download file and save it to your VST3 plugin folder (typically C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3). Restart your DAW and scan the plugins folder from your DAW's plugin manager.

To install the VST2 plugin: make sure your DAW is closed then copy the "TrueMidSide.dll" file from the download file and save it to your VST2 plugin folder (typically C:\Program Files\Steinberg\VSTPlugins). Restart your DAW and scan the plugins folder from your DAW's plugin manager.

To install the aaxplugin for Pro Tools: make sure your DAW is closed then copy the "TrueMidSide.aaxplugin" file from the download file and save it to your Avid plugin folder (typically C:\Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins). The plugin will be automatically scanned/added the next time Pro Tools is opened.

FOR MAC ("dmg" folder)
To install the VST2, VST3 and/or AU plugins, make sure your DAW is closed then copy the "TrueMidSide.vst" and/or "TrueMidSide.vst3" and/or "TrueMidSide.component" folders from the download file and save them the VST and/or VST3 and/or Component folders on your Mac under /Library/Audio/Plugins.

NOTE: On Mac OS 10.13 and later a reboot may be required before AU plugins will show up in your DAW(s) – and is typically required for Logic Pro X.

To install the AAX plugin for Pro Tools: make sure your DAW is closed then copy the "TrueMidSide.aaxplugin" file from download file and save it to your Avid plugin folder (typically /user/Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins). The plugin will be automatically scanned/added the next time Pro Tools is opened.

REGISTRATION

True Mid/Side will be operating in demo mode when first installed and will operate unrestricted for 14 days. At the end of 14 days the demo will cease output unless a license is purchased. To install your license, click on the registration at the bottom left corner of the plugin window; copy and right-click paste the registration code from your purchase receipt then press enter on your keyboard.

NOTE: Internet connection is required during registration. If your system is typically isolated from the internet for security or performance reasons you may disconnect after the plugin shows "Registered to: your name".

NOTE: Many DAWs "cache" plugins and may not show the plugin as "Registered to: xxx" until the plugin is removed from a track or bus and re-loaded. Restarting the DAW will also refresh the plugin.

Answers to common registrations issues can be found on our website FAQ page.

Plugin I/O

True Mid/Side is a stereo input plugin that can support up to 3 stereo output buses for DAWs that can support plugins with multiple outputs. In standard stereo mode the main outputs are controlled by the Main Outs select control while the Mid and Side outputs are fixed at unity gain and always available even when the plugin is bypassed.

When used in a helper plugin, such as DDMF's Metaplugin, only one instance of True Mid/Side is required to produce both Mid and Side outputs simultaneously.

NOTE: multiple output pins are not available in the AAX plugin format or in some DAWs on other formats. When changing pin connections in DAWs that do support it, it is sometimes necessary to toggle the DAW's plugin VST bus settings to get the DAW to reconfigure the outputs.

Plugin Controls
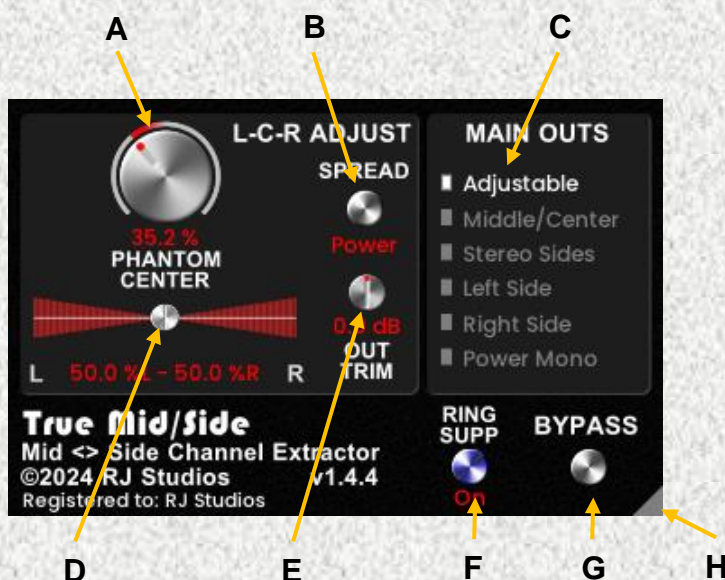
A – Phantom Center – sets the amount of Phantom Center vs. stereo Sides in the output mix.

B – Spread – selects the stereo separation algorithm, Linear or Power. Power is the new default setting while Linear was the original version 1.0.0 setting (provided for backward compatibility). Power setting results in the greatest stereo separation while Linear mode provides less separation but with slightly less artifacts. This control has no effect in Power Mono mode.

C – Main Outs – selects the output mode of the plugin routed to the main stereo outputs:

- **Adjustable** – Center/Side mix adjust, Left/Right adjust and output trim controls
- **Middle/Center** – center output only (use for rendering Mid channel stem)
- **Stereo Sides** – stereo side channels only (use for rendering Side channel stem)
- **Left Side** – left side only (right channel muted)
- **Right Side** – right side only (left channel muted)
- **Power Mono** – produces a "power sum" mono mix that more accurately captures the full ambience and balance of the stereo mix vs. typical mono L+R mix where sides are down 3dB.

D – Left/Right Balance – adjusts the Left/Right balance of the stereo sides when in "Adjustable" mode. This is like a pan control but does not include the middle component and will, therefore, have most effect when the Phantom Center control is set to 0% (100% sides).

E – Trim – overall output level trim when in "Adjustable" and "Power Mono" modes.

F – Ring Suppression – (on by default) – reduces, and in many cases completely eliminates, the pre-ringing/post-ringing artifacts of the separation processor producing sharper attack of transients when rising from low levels. Ring Suppression can be turned off when not needed to reduce CPU load or if the pre-ringing "fade in" is desired as an effect (for drum clips, etc.).

Here is an example of a snare drum hit **without**   -   and **with** Ring Suppression:

G – Bypass – turns plugin audio processing to the main outputs On/Off. (Audio outputs at the dedicated Mid and Side output pins are always On).

H – GUI Resize handle – click and drag to scale GUI up/down by +/-50%. Double-click to reset to default size.

CONTROL MODIFIERS

1) Hold down the Ctrl key while dragging or scrolling any rotary or slider control for fine resolution
2) Hold down the Alt (Win)/Option(Mac) key and then click on any rotary or slider control to reset that control to its default value
3) Double-click on any rotary or slider control to type in a control value.

HOW TO USE True Mid/Side

True Mid/Side can be used as an INSERT effect on tracks and buses to directly adjust the Left/Center/Right channel balance and also to render independent, true Mid and stereo Side stems. True Mid/Side can also be used as a SEND effect to route the extracted Left/Center/Right channels elsewhere in your DAW. All outputs from True Mid/Side are linear phase and latency compensated in your DAW (make sure your DAW's plugin latency compensation is turned on!).

To adjust the Left/Center/Right balance of a stereo track or bus in your DAW:

Insert the True Mid/Side plugin in any stereo track or bus. Set the Output control to "Adjustable". Use the Phantom Center control to adjust the Mid/Side relationship in the mix and the L/R Balance control to adjust the Left/Right balance. Note that the effect of the L/R Balance control depends on how much Side signal is in the mix and the setting of the Phantom Center control. For example, if Phantom Center is set to 100% there will be no Side signal in the mix and the L/R Balance control will have no effect. Use the Out Trim control as necessary for overall pre/post level matching.

To render true Mid and true Side stems from your DAW[*]:

Insert the True Mid/Side plugin in any stereo track or bus. SOLO that track or bus. Set the Output control of True Mid/Side to "Middle/Center" and render a new stereo track – then repeat the process with the Output control set to "Stereo Sides". The two rendered stereo stems can then be individually processed as desired then mixed back together to re-create the original source stereo signal (the original stereo track should typically be muted after rendering the Mid/Side stems).

To process true Mid and true Side signals as SENDS within your DAW[*]:

Add True Mid/Side to one or more effect SEND slot(s) in any stereo track or bus. Set the Output control to "Adjustable" for adjustable send levels or any of the other output choices for fixed settings.

[*]NOTES:

- The isolated Middle/Center and Side signals can sound strange on some material – especially if the source audio has been previously processed through "lossy" encoding/decoding (mp3, AAC, etc.). Once the Mid and Side channels are mixed back together these artifacts will typically cancel provided too much independent processing hasn't been applied. In extreme

cases the ability to manipulate the independent Mid and Side channels – while producing an acceptable summation - may be limited. For best results it is recommended to use True Mid/Side only on original, uncompressed source material.

- The outputs from True Mid/Side are linear phase and latency compensated in your DAW. If you intend to mix any of True Mid/Side's outputs with the original stereo source please use linear phase processing (linear phase EQ, etc.) on the stems to retain proper phase alignment.

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VST COMPATIBLE

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