

# Welcome to MIXBOSS

ARE YOU READY TO BE THE BOSS OF YOUR MIXES?



**Supported Formats:** VST, VST3, AU, AAX, AAX Native, Windows, and macOS, both Intel and Apple Silicon-based CPUs, as well as Native AAX format. It should work on all major DAWs and 3rd party plugin-supported audio editors.

## Installation

Please close your DAW first. When you download the installation files, double-click the package to install the plugin just like any other application. Start your DAW; it should scan the installed BASSSHAPER and appear in your plugin list under the W.A. Production brand. Follow the installation instructions specific to your digital audio workstation (DAW).

## Trial/demo

The plugin will fully function for 14 days. If you have purchased a license, please click the “ACTIVATE” icon on the plugin GUI to activate it. Then, follow the steps.



## Introduction

Mixboss is a plugin developed in collaboration with award-winning sound engineer Emrah Celik, based on one of the most effective methods in mixing: the Topdown Mixing concept.

With Mixboss, you will find yourself using much less compression, reverb, stereo widening, and saturation in your mixes. These are all effects that, if misused, can easily ruin a mix – and Mixboss helps you use them correctly and efficiently.

Additionally, thanks to its Monitoring feature, you can check how your song would sound on a grotbox, car speakers, mobile phones, or in mono, without ever leaving your desk.

# Topdown Mixing?

## What is Topdown Mixing?

Topdown mixing is a technique where you start shaping the overall sound of your mix right from the beginning, by working through the mixbus or masterbus, instead of focusing first on individual tracks.

The idea is to apply EQ, compression, and tonal shaping early on across the whole mix. This helps create a cohesive, musical final mix faster and guides decisions on the individual elements as you move forward.

In short:

Before you even start mixing the individual elements, you place your plugins (like Mixboss) on the Masterbus and mix into them.

Mixboss is a perfect tool for this and is one of the most comprehensive Topdown Mixing plugins on the market.

## How to use?

Mixboss is extremely simple to use. However, we strongly recommend not adding it to an already fully mixed song.

Instead, insert Mixboss on your Mixbus or Masterbus right at the start of the mix – before any mixing process – and adjust it before beginning your mixing process.

You'll get the best results when you mix into Mixboss.

(That said, you can also experiment with finished mixes and still achieve great results.)

# Plugin Overview



## CONTROL KNOB:

A precisely tuned multiband compressor with linear analog crossover filters that maintain phase integrity while adding punch and cohesion. Underneath the Control knob, you'll see three gain reduction LEDs (Low, Mid, High). Increase the input gain until you see movement on the Low and Mid LEDs. The Control knob functions as a global Dry/Wet control for the multiband compressor, working in parallel. Turn CONTROL KNOB until you achieve the desired amount of compression. If you need more compression, add gain from the Input control.

## ENHANCE KNOB:

This is the Dry/Wet control for the three character modes next to it. You can activate any combination of them:

**COLOR:** Adds lively, rich saturation to your mix.

**DEPTH:** An effect that adds depth to your mix, creating front-to-back separation between sounds and enriching the stereo image. You may have heard that world-renowned engineers often use reverb on their mixbuses – the reason is to add depth to the mix. Depth, however, is not a traditional reverb; instead, it provides a much clearer and more defined sense of depth than what a classic reverb typically offers.

**WIDE:** Carefully increases stereo width without breaking the cohesion of the mix. Stereo width is essential for a great mix, but if not handled carefully, it can break the cohesion of the mix. The Wide character in Mixboss helps you expand the stereo field without compromising the overall integrity of the sound.

# Plugin Overview



**BALANCE KNOB:** A Spectral Mix Balancer that references a custom noise profile created from thousands of songs. It continuously and gently rebalances your mix in real-time to match a musically cohesive tonal balance. Use this knob carefully and moderately for best results.



**PUSH EQ:** This section is a carefully tuned EQ where the affected frequency ranges have been meticulously selected. The Low and High knobs offer a Pultec-style response with a gentle, musical curve – but its capabilities go beyond that.

Normally, this EQ allows you to push low, mid, or high frequencies into the dynamic processors (Control, Enhance, and Balance) to fine-tune your dynamically shaped mix.

When set to **POST EQ**, it moves after the dynamic processing chain, allowing you to tonally control your mix at the final stage.

Additionally, when you activate the **MixEQ** switch, it eliminates potentially unwanted infrasonic and ultrasonic frequencies in your songs, giving you a much tighter and more cohesive "Mix Into EQ", further refining your tonal balance.



# Plugin Overview



## LIMIT:

This is a limiter specially tuned for use on the mixbus. With this limiter, you can achieve hotter mix outputs, prevent your mixes from clipping, or check how your mix will react to a limiter during mastering. If you're mixing for others, it also allows you to deliver mixes at a competitive loudness level.

Our recommendation is to always mix with the limiter activated and at an appropriate loudness. If someone else will handle the mastering of your song, you can set the limiter knob to 0% to turn it OFF.

## MIX:

This knob controls the Dry/Wet blend of all the dynamic processes and Push EQ adjustments before the limiter. If you feel that Mixboss is affecting your mix too heavily, you can use this knob to apply processing in parallel.

## Please Note:

The Mix knob only affects processes before the limiter. It does not control the Dry/Wet blend of the limiter itself.

**4X:** A smart oversampling system. It provides 4X oversampling specifically for the modules within the plugin that require it.

**Ø (Flip Polarity):** This switch allows you to flip the polarity by 180 degrees after applying processing, so you can hear how your mix sounds with reversed polarity. Sometimes flipping the polarity can make your mix sound stronger and punchier.

# Plugin Overview



## MONITORING:

Ever wondered how your finished mix would sound on a small stereo grotbox speaker? Or how would it translate in a car? Or how would it sound through a mobile phone speaker? And what about mono compatibility? Mixboss includes a fantastic feature that answers all these questions!

**Grotbox:** "Grotbox speaker" is a term used for small, low-quality reference speakers commonly used during music production and mixing. Grotboxes are used to test how a track will sound on poor or limited sound systems. They help check if key elements like vocals, midrange balance, and the overall mix are clearly audible across all kinds of devices. Examples include small radios, old TV speakers, and basic desktop monitors. The goal is to reveal flaws and ensure the mix works well in all environments.

**Car:** Almost everyone checks their mixes in the car at some point. But wouldn't it be great to simulate car playback without leaving your studio? With the Car icon, you can do exactly that – run a "car test" right from your desk.

**Phone:** Sad but, many people primarily listen to music through their phone speakers. This button lets you instantly hear how your mix sounds on a mobile device.

# Plugin Overview



## **MONO:**

Music is still often played back in mono systems – especially in festivals, concerts, nightclubs, or through basic portable Bluetooth speakers. Mono compatibility remains critical. The Mono button allows you to hear how much of your mix is lost or retained when collapsed to mono. You can also combine Mono mode with the Grotbox, Car, and Phone simulations to check mono compatibility during those tests.

## **Please Note:**

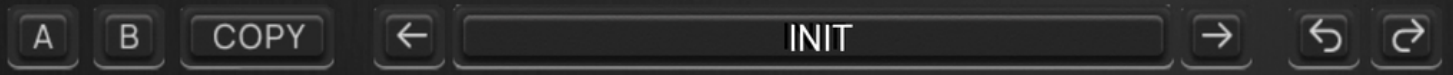
These monitoring simulations are logically placed at the end of Mixboss's signal chain.

Depending on the situation, clipping may occur. If you experience clipping, simply lower the Output knob until it's resolved.

The monitoring systems are gain-matched to ensure an accurate before/after comparison for real-world listening conditions.



# OTHER CONTROLS



**PRESETS MENU:** You can select pre-made presets or save your own categories and presets here.

**COPY, A, B, UNDO, REDO:** These are self-explanatory controls for testing 2 different settings or undoing/redoning actions.



**IN, OUT:** You can manually adjust the input and output gain.



**BYPASS:** This button bypasses the plugin.

