

AIVA UNMASKING EQ

Real-Time Spectral Dynamic Unmasking Equalizer (Windows 64-bit | VST3)

Overview

Aiva Unmasking EQ is a surgical dynamic spectral processor designed to carve space between competing tracks in real time. Instead of statically cutting frequencies from your guitars, synths, pianos, or backing buses, it listens to a Sidechain input (such as a lead vocal, snare, or kick) and attenuates only the exact overlapping frequencies—only when the sidechain signal is actively playing.

Equipped with a calibrated real-time RTA spectrum analyzer and zero-latency IIR bandpass/peaking filters, Aiva Unmasking EQ preserves the natural fullness and tone of your instruments while keeping your lead elements crystal clear in the mix.

Format & System Requirements

- **Format:** VST3 Plugin (64-bit)
- **Operating System:** Windows 10 / Windows 11 (64-bit)
- **Supported DAWs:** Any VST3-compatible host with Sidechain routing (Studio Fender, Cubase, Reaper, FL Studio, Ableton Live, Bitwig, Cakewalk, etc.)
- **Audio Quality:** 32/64-bit floating-point internal processing, zero latency, bit-transparent when idle, supports all sample rates from 44.1 kHz up to 192 kHz.

- **Activation:** After payment is confirmed, we will send you an email with the license key within 48 hours.

Calibrated 0 dB Pink Noise RTA Analyzer

The built-in real-time RTA spectrum analyzer is factory-calibrated to a **0 dBFS Pink Noise reference standard.**

- **True 1:1 Visual Reference:** A balanced 0 dBFS pink noise signal aligns directly with the upper **0 dB** reference line across the entire 20 Hz to 20 kHz spectrum.
- **Real-Time Dynamic Attenuation Display:** The orange curve displays the exact decibel reduction across all bands (down to -12 dB) in real time, letting you see precisely where frequency masking is being removed.

Quick Start Setup

1. Run `AivaUnmaskingEQ_Setup.exe` to automatically install the VST3 plugin into your system VST3 folder (`C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3`).
2. Insert Aiva Unmasking EQ onto the track you want to carve space out of (for example, your Guitar Bus, Piano, or Synth Pad) and paste your license key to activate.
3. Route your priority track (such as the Lead Vocal) into Aiva Unmasking EQ's **Sidechain** input in your DAW.
4. Adjust the **Unmask** knob to control how deeply conflicting frequencies are attenuated whenever the vocal sings.

Controls & Parameters

- LOW CUT (20 Hz – 20 kHz) Sets the lower frequency boundary (marked by the vertical green line) below which unmasking attenuation will not occur, keeping your bass and low-end punch completely untouched.
- EDGE SLOPE (0 % – 100 %) Controls the transition smoothness at the Low Cut and High Cut boundaries. Lower values create a gentle, wide fade-in/out over 2 octaves, while 100 % creates a tight, surgical cutoff edge.
- UNMASK (0 % – 100 %) Sets the overall depth of dynamic frequency attenuation (up to -12 dB maximum cut per band) triggered by the Sidechain signal.
- SHARPNESS (2.0 Q – 30.0 Q) Adjusts the bandwidth (Q factor) of all internal detection and cutting filters. Lower Q values create smooth, broad musical dips, while higher Q values target narrow, surgical vocal harmonics.
- ATTACK (0.02 ms – 50 ms) Determines how quickly the plugin reacts and cuts competing frequencies when a Sidechain transient or syllable arrives. The ultra-fast 0.02 ms default ensures instant vocal intelligibility.

- RELEASE (10 ms – 1000 ms) Controls how smoothly the attenuated frequencies return to their full level after the Sidechain signal stops.
- HIGH CUT (20 Hz – 20 kHz) Sets the upper frequency boundary (marked by the vertical coral-red line) above which unmasking attenuation is disabled, preserving the natural shimmer and air of your instruments.
- OUTPUT (-12 dB to +12 dB) Adjusts the final output level of the plugin. Automatically bypassed when BYPASS is active for accurate level-matched A/B listening.
- BYPASS Disengages all spectral unmasking and output gain changes so you can compare the processed and unprocessed mix directly.

Pro Workflow Tips

- Vocal vs. Guitar / Keys Separation: Place Aiva Unmasking EQ on your instrument bus, route the Lead Vocal to Sidechain, set Low Cut to 300 Hz, High Cut to 6000 Hz, Sharpness to 15.0 Q, and raise Unmask to 25–40 %.
- Kick vs. Bass Punch: Place Aiva Unmasking EQ on the Bass track, route the Kick Drum to Sidechain, set Low Cut to 20 Hz, High Cut to 250 Hz, Attack to 0.02 ms, and Release to 80–120 ms for clean low-end separation without pumping the entire bassline.
- Fine-Tuning Controls: Use your mouse wheel for ultra-smooth micro-adjustments on any knob, or double-click any control to reset it to its factory default value.
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