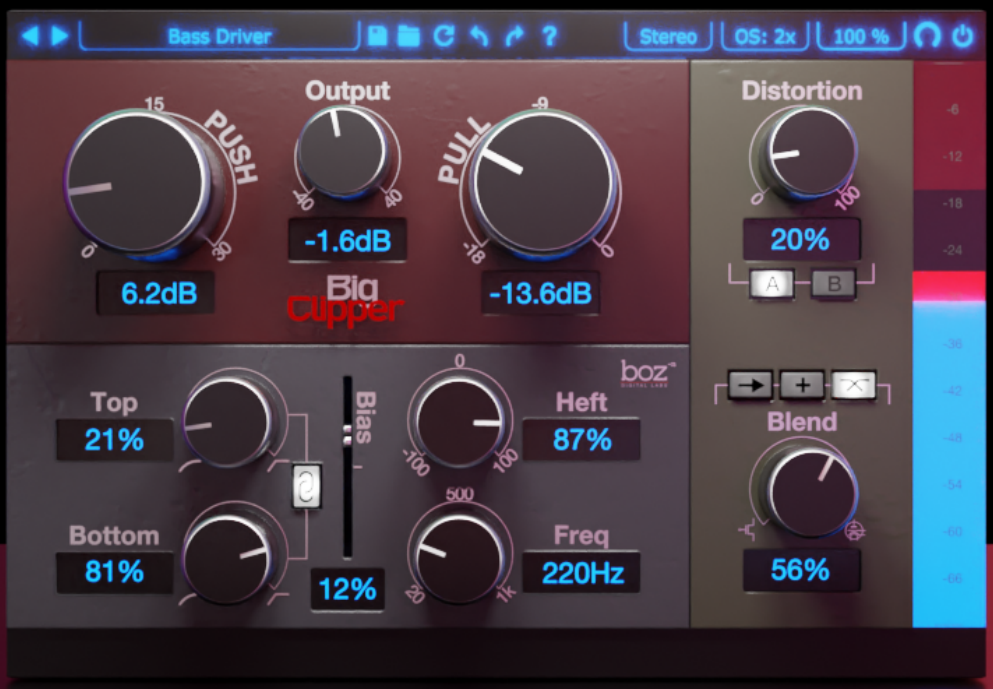
Big Clipper

User's Manual



boz -n

DIGITAL LABS

System Requirements

This plugin was crafted to be as light as possible on your CPU, enabling you to put this on many tracks without eating up your processing power. For Mac, you must be running OSX 10.5 or greater. For windows, you need Windows XP or greater.

Available Formats

This plugin is available in both 32 and 64 bit versions of each format (except RTAS, which is 32 bit only). It is available in the following formats:

Mac	VST2, VST3, AU, RTAS, AAX Native
Windows	VST2, VST3, RTAS, AAX Native

Registration

The first time you run Big Clipper 2, it will ask you for your username and serial number. You can find this information in your downloads page. If you do not have a serial number and you would like to demo the plugin you can press "Continue Trial" to use the plugin in trial mode.

Downloads page URL: http://www.bozdigitallabs.com/my-account/downloads/

Trial Mode

When Big Clipper is in trial mode, you can use all of the plugin's functionality. The only difference is that it will not save its settings when you close and reopen the plugin. The preset save function is also disabled, but the default presets will still load.

Background

Distortion: the cause of, and solution to, all of life's problems. Big Clipper aims at creating distortion in a way that gives you lots of options while still sounding good no matter what you throw at it. There's quite a bit of magic that Big Clipper offers to make it really easy to dial in distortion that ranges from nasty to smooth.

System Requirements

Mac: 10.13 or higher
Windows: 7 or higher

RAM: 2GB

Hard Drive Space: 150mb

Available Formats

This plugin is available in 64 bit versions of each format. It is available in the following formats:

Mac	VST2, VST3, AU, AAX Native (Intel and Apple Silicon)
Windows	VST2, VST3, AAX Native

Installation

Download and run the installer. During the installation, you can choose which formats you would like to install.

Registration

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Top Bar

Presets
Big Clipper comes equipped with its own preset menu. To save a preset, just hit the 'Save' icon next to the preset menu, type the name of the preset and hit *enter*. If you enter a name of an existing preset, the old preset will be overwritten.

Presets can be organized into sub menus by sorting them into folders in your finder/explorer window. Note that the preset menu only supports one layer of sub folders, so if you put presets inside a folder that is inside a folder, the preset scanner will not find them.

Presets are shareable across formats, computers and operating systems. This means that if you save a preset in your DAW in OSX, you can send that preset file to a friend who uses a different DAW on Windows and it will work exactly the same.

For convenience, you can scroll through the presets by hitting the next/previous buttons.

Default Settings: You can customize the default settings of the plugin. If you want to change the default settings of the plugin, right-click the "Save Preset" icon.

Undo/Redo
You can click the undo/redo buttons to step through the changes you have made to the plugin.

About
Open up the *About* page where you can access this user manual and other information about the plugin.

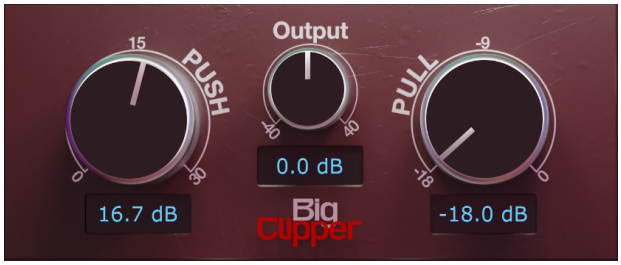
Stereo Configuration
Select among Stereo, Mid/Side, Mid and Side configuration.

Oversample
Select the amount of oversampling applied to the plugin. Oversampling can provide cleaner sounding distortion by removing aliasing artifacts. When oversampling is enabled, there will be a small delay applied to your output, and the CPU usage will be a bit higher.

Plugin Enable
This switch enables/bypasses the entire plugin.

Main Controls

Push
This controls the input gain to the clipper. The harder you drive the input, the harder it will distort.

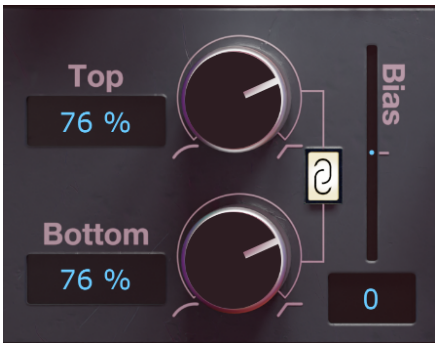


Pull
The pull knob adjusts the distortion threshold.

Output
Adjusts the output gain.

Shape
This lets you adjust between hard and soft clipping. Hard clipping will give a more bitey distortion, while soft clipping will give a smoother distortion. Different situations will call for different styles of clipping.

Top/Bottom Shape
These controls let you set the shape of the top and bottom of the waveform independently, which in addition to just adjusting the harshness of the harmonics, providing an asymmetric distortion can increase the even harmonics.



Link
Enabling this button links the top and bottom shape controls so you can keep them symmetrical without having to adjust each knob.

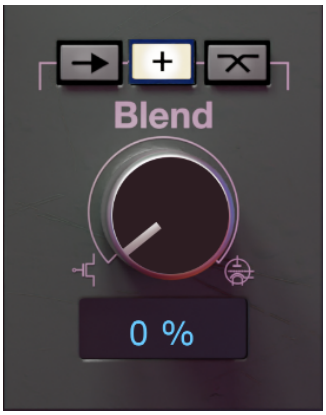
Bias
This slider adjusts the level of drive asymmetrically on the top and bottom, giving you another way to get richer harmonics. Used in conjunction with the shape knobs, you can get a wide variety of harmonic flavor from the distortion.

Distortion
This knob controls how much distortion is present in the tube stage. Turning this down reduces the amount of distortion in the tube stage

Tube Mode
These buttons switch between two different tubes. Each tube has a different harmonic profile. A has harsher/sharper harmonics that B.

Blend

Big Clipper is a dual stage distortion, and a lot of its magic comes from blending the two stages together. One of the stages is a waveshaper similar to waveshapers you will find in other distortion plugins. The second stage is a much softer compressor/limiter/distortion algorithm that lets you control how much distortion it will cause. We'll call these stages *Clipper* and *Tube* (even though the tube stage isn't modeled after any particular vacuum tube). Mixing these two stages together opens up a lot of possibilities for different flavored distortions.



- **Crossover Mode -** This mode sets a crossover between the Clipper and the Tube, with the Clipper on the lower band, and the Limiter on the higher band. The Blend knob controls the crossover frequency.

  This mode is great for any time where you want to clip more transparently. The harmonics created by the distortion will be much more mellow than traditional clipping, and can still retain a lot of the snap.

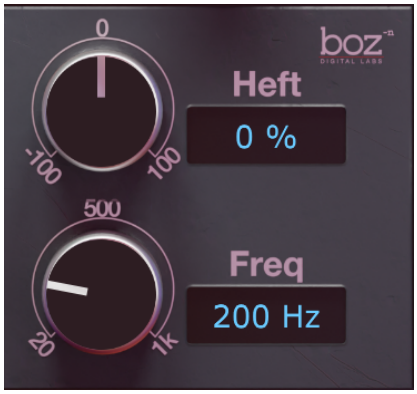
- **Mix Mode** - This mode blends between the full band Tube and the full band Clipper. The Blend fader in the mode is set to blend between 0% and 100%.

  This mode is great for dialing in your settings, then blending in exactly how much distortion you want to hear.

- **Series Mode** - This mode runs the Tube and the Clipper in series (first the clipper, then the Tube). In this mode, the clipper's threshold is higher than the tube's. As you adjust your "blend" knob, the threshold of the clipper changes. When set fully to the clipper side, the clipper and tube thresholds are the same. This gives you the sound of the tube, with a little bit of the clipper's distortion sprinkled on top.

Heft

This is, in my opinion, the most important knob in the plugin. This knob adjusts the threshold of the lower frequencies. Turning up the Heft increases the threshold in the lower frequencies, giving a less distorted and more dynamic sound to the low frequencies. Feel free to use this liberally for a super smooth distorted sound.



Heft Frequency

Adjusts the frequency of the Heft knob.

Credits

Plugin concept and design: Boz Millar

Contact

If you ever run into issues or have any questions, you can send an email to support@bozdigitallabs.com.