

# BatSaturator Manual

## Introduction

BatSaturator is an analog-style saturation plugin developed by Black Arts Techs.

It allows you to add warmth and presence to your sound with simple controls, suitable for vocals, bass, drums, and even the master bus.

Internally, it includes features such as Iron (transformer-style coloration), Character (distortion texture control), and Tone (overall brightness), which are useful for sound design. Additionally, with its unique auto-gain compensation, even when Drive is raised, the volume does not drop unnaturally, enabling comfortable sound creation.

This manual covers everything from basic operation to advanced use cases, troubleshooting, and support information.

Start by selecting a preset and experiencing the sonic changes BatSaturator brings.

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## 1. Basic Interface and Controls

When BatSaturator is loaded, the following screen will appear.



Each control has the following roles:

- **Input**

Adjusts the signal level before entering the plugin. Matching the input to the recording level ensures stable Drive behavior.

- **Iron**

Adds transformer-style coloration. The balance of even/odd harmonics changes, giving the sound thickness and unique character.

- **Drive**

Controls the amount of distortion. Higher values increase harmonics, making the sound fuller and more forward. Automatic gain compensation prevents extreme volume drops.

- **Character**

Changes the distortion curve. “Soft” yields smooth, natural distortion, while “Hot” produces edgy, aggressive distortion.

- **Tone**

One-knob tone control for brightness.

- Raising the value emphasizes highs for a bright, sharp impression.
- Lowering the value attenuates highs for a calmer tone.

Tone Custom mode expands the range, allowing bolder sound shaping.

- **Mix**

Blends the dry (original) and wet (processed) signals. Uses equal-power crossfade, so perceived loudness stays consistent.

## • Output

Adjusts the overall output level. Use this to balance the plugin's output with your mix.

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Preset Loading and Saving From the top menu, you can load factory presets or save your own settings for reuse.

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## 2. Function Details and Applications

Here we explain how to use each feature effectively:

### • Input & Drive Combination

Adjust the input first, then raise Drive to achieve the desired tone. Excessive input may cause unwanted distortion.

### • Iron vs. Character

Iron adds transformer-like body, while Character changes distortion texture. Combining both yields diverse tones.

### • Tone / Tone Custom

Lower Tone for a mellow sound, raise it for brightness. Custom mode extends the range, useful for extreme or creative processing.

### • Mix Usage

Acts like parallel processing: retain the original's attack while blending processed tone. Particularly effective on drum or master buses at 30–50% blend.

## • Output Adjustment

Drive and Mix can raise volume. Use Output to rebalance and fit your project's mix.

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## Example Settings

- Vocals: Drive 4–8 dB, Tone slightly raised, Mix 50–70% → Forward but natural.
- Bass: Drive 10–14 dB, Iron higher for body → Solid presence.
- Drum Bus: Drive 14–18 dB, Mix 30–50% → Adds punch while keeping impact.
- Mastering: Drive 1–3 dB, fine-tune Tone → Subtle, cohesive finish.

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## 3. Troubleshooting

### No sound output

- Ensure the plugin is loaded correctly in your DAW.
- Check Input Trim isn't too low.
- Verify Bypass isn't enabled.

### Plugin not showing in DAW

- Confirm the install folder is scanned by your DAW.
- VST3: check standard install paths (Mac: ~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3 / Win: C:\Program Files\).  
Win: C:\Program Files\).
- AU: check placement in the Audio Units folder (Mac only).
- Rescan plugins in your DAW's manager.

### Output too loud/quiet

- Drive can raise RMS; adjust Output accordingly.
- If changes are drastic, tweak Input Trim.

### **High CPU usage**

- Multiple instances increase load.
- Use freeze/bounce functions if used alongside heavy plugins.

### **Demo limitations**

- Demo inserts periodic noise.
- Enter product serial to unlock full version.

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## **4. Support Information**

For smooth operation, here's how to reach support:

### **Contact**

- For questions or bug reports,

email: [support@blackartstechs.com](mailto:support@blackartstechs.com)

Include: OS (macOS/Windows version),  
DAW and version, BatSaturator version,  
problem details/screenshots.

### **Website**

- Latest updates, manuals, and FAQ:

<https://blackartstechs.com>

### **Version Info**

BatSaturator uses version format: Major.Minor.Patch

Example: 1.0.0

- Major = big new features
- Minor = improvements
- Patch = bugfixes

Version is shown in plugin title bar or DAW plugin info.