

VOLT

USER MANUAL

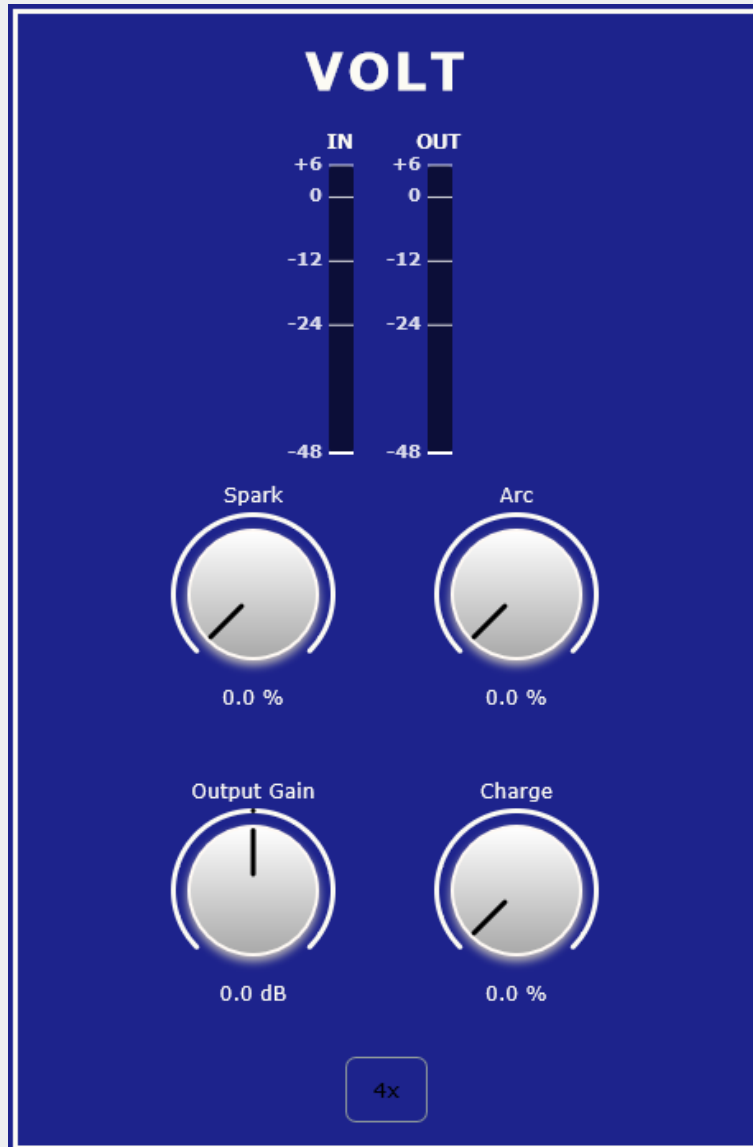


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ABOUT VOLT

Volt is a simplistic, no frills saturation plugin with the goal of enriching your tracks! The plugin has been inspired by other easy-to-use saturation plugins that we love, such as Sausage Fattener by Dada Life, or Saturation Knob by Softube. Volt has been designed to streamline the mixing process by avoiding complex features, allowing you to work more efficiently. The Spark knob has been designed to adhere to all needs, going from smooth harmonic enhancements to more dense and rich saturation as the knob increases. All other features of Volt are designed to aid the Spark knob, not inhibit or overpower it.

INSTALLATION & DAW IMPLEMENTATION

Volt is in VST3 and AU formats. After downloading, the plugin should be moved into the plugins folder of your preferred DAW, which is typically /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins (or VST/VST3).

Requirements for Windows

Windows 10 or higher, 64-bit

VST3

Requirements for macOS

MacOS 10.13 or higher, 64-bit

VST 3

AU

Ableton Live – Create and select a track and drag Volt from the Plug-In Device browser on the left-hand side of the DAW onto the track.

Logic Pro – Create a track, click on an insert slot and find Volt from the pop-up menu.

Cubase – Select an insert slot from the Mixer and find Volt from the menu.

Studio One – Create a track, click on the '+' button and find Volt.

Reaper – Create a track, click on an insert slot and find Volt from the pop-up menu.

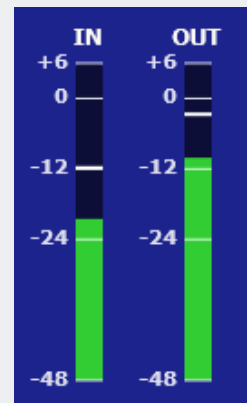
KNOBS

Volt's knobs are intuitive and easy to use; each being based off analogue potentiometers. All knobs are controllable by clicking, holding and dragging the mouse up or down. Double-clicking on a knob will reset it to its default state. Volt also features a clickable button for selecting 4x oversampling.

FEATURES

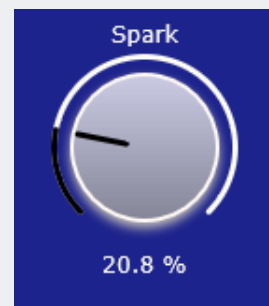
In/Out Metres

The In/Out Metres allow for monitoring if the signal as it enters and exits the plugin. This helps to aid proper gain staging



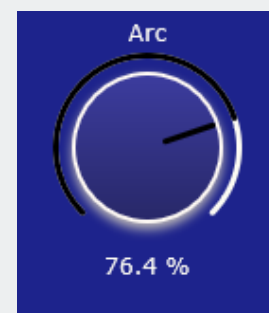
Spark

The Spark parameter controls the saturation and compression amount. Using this parameter above 50% can be intense and is recommended to be used between 10% and 40%.



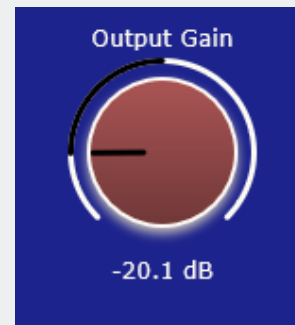
Arc

The Arc parameter controls the colour added. This parameter adds high frequencies to the signal to brighten the final tone.



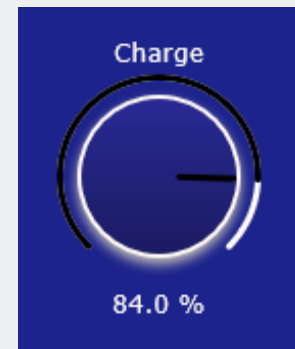
Output Gain

The Output Gain parameter allows for gain staging control. This controls the gain level of the signal at the end of the chain. This parameter is useful for counteracting the gain increase introduced by the Spark knob.



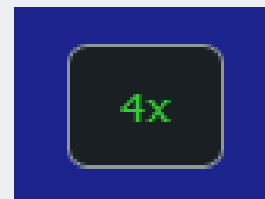
Charge

The Charge parameter allow for the plugin's saturation to be bypassed or blended with the dry signal. This is a master dry/wet and therefore will bypass all other plugin features universally. At 0%, the signal will pass through the plugin unaffected, as Volt does not have a box tone.



4x

The "4x" button engages 4x oversampling. This button is off by default and is engaged when the background is black and the text is green.



USE CASES

Kick and Snare – Lower Spark amounts will add punch and weight via harmonic density, whereas higher amounts push into aggressive territory - great for rock/metal snares or distorted EDM kicks.

Drum Bus – With Spark at <25% and some parallel processing using the Mix knob, Volt adds glue, cohesion and energy. Subtle amounts of Arc an bring out stick attack and cymbal details.

Bass – Lower Spark settings enhance harmonic presence, helping bass to translate without overwhelming the low end. Higher Spark settings introduce grit and edge, useful for aggressive genres or distorted bass tones. Subtle amounts of Arc can add clarity, but should be used sparingly to avoid harshness.

Guitars – Moderate Spark amounts between 30–50% thickens tone and enhances sustain via added harmonic content. Higher settings push into saturated, driven tones suitable for rock and alternative styles. Arc can be used lightly to emphasise pick attack and upper harmonic detail.

Vocals – Low Spark amounts add warmth and presence through gentle harmonic enhancement, helping vocals sit forward in a mix. Higher values introduce character and edge for stylistic effect. Use Arc minimally to add air.

Synths and Pads – Spark amounts <30% add richness and movement by enhancing upper harmonics. Higher settings can introduce controlled distortion for more character-driven sounds. Arc can help bring out shimmer and high frequency content when needed.

Mix Bus – Very subtle Spark, <10%, can introduce slight harmonic cohesion and perceived loudness. Parallel processing via the Mix knob is recommended to retain transparency. Arc should be used very sparingly.

FINAL NOTE

Thank you for taking the time to use Volt and for supporting an independent plugin development company! Any issues, feedback or questions regarding Volt can be directed to: projects@dylanelliot.com.