

Console EQ Getting Started Guide




Console EQ gives you an analog mixing workflow inside of Ableton Live.

Modelled on a classic analog channel strip, Console EQ intentionally limits your choices while still being flexible enough for most situations. It features 4 bands of EQ plus high and lowpass filters with an analog saturation stage to top it all off with some warmth and colour.

It's not analog; it's better.

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Installing Console EQ

Inside the folder you downloaded, you will find a Console EQ.amxd file — this is a Max For Live device file. To load it in Ableton Live, drag and drop it onto a Track in your project.

Note that you will need Max For Live installed to use Console EQ. Max For Live is included with Ableton Live Suite and can be purchased as an add-on for Ableton Live Standard.

To learn more about installing Packs in Ableton Live, see the [Installing 3rd Party Packs and Content in Ableton Live](#) guide.

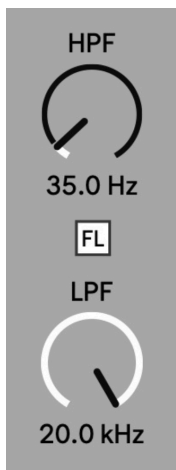


Using Console EQ



Console EQ works just like any other EQ. A general ‘how-to’ of using EQ is beyond the scope of this guide, but information on specific controls in Console EQ can be found below.

The Filter Section



On the far left are controls for the high and lowpass filters (HPF and LPF), as well as a toggle to turn on or off the filter section.

Note that even when the filters are fully open, some filtering is still applied, so be sure to turn the filter section off if you want absolutely no filtering applied.

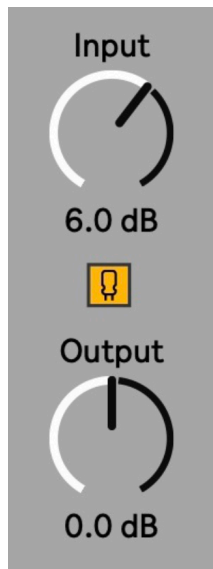
EQ Section



There are 4 bands of EQ available; Low, Low Mid, High Mid and High.

The low and high bands are switchable between shelf and peak/notch modes.

I/O Section



On the far right is the Input and Output section.

The Colour toggle in the middle turns on or off an 'analog' mode. With this off, Console EQ functions like a purely digital EQ, albeit with a hardware-style workflow.

With Colour on, a transistor-style saturation is applied that models the tone of an analog console.

The amount of saturation is dependent on the level going into the saturation circuit. The EQ stage is before the saturation, so any adjustments to the EQ will affect how much saturation is applied.

You can also use the Input Gain control to drive the level going into the saturation for a more overdriven sound.

The Input Gain control is automatically gain compensated, so you will not hear a change in the level of the sound when adjusting this, only an increase or decrease in the amount of saturation.

The Output Gain control provides a simple output trim for gain staging after applying your EQ.



Console Mini



There is also a slightly stripped-down version of Console EQ called Console Mini. This is not necessarily a ‘limited’ version of Console EQ, but rather an even more minimal EQ, with the same analog workflow and colouration, for times when you only need a few bands of EQ.

For the most part, Console Mini functions like its bigger sibling. A notable difference is that the Low band is switchable between a shelf and highpass mode. The High band is a high shelf with an adjustable Q.

Why Use Console EQ?

You might ask the question, why use Console EQ? Ableton Live already has the incredibly powerful EQ Eight as well as the slimmed-down Channel EQ.

Personally, as much as I love those options, they provide ‘too many choices’ and an inherently digital workflow. I’ve always loved the limitations of working on a physical mixing console where your decisions are influenced by the limitations of what’s given to you. I find I make more deliberate and ultimately better decisions working in this way.

I built Console EQ for myself to simulate this ‘analog’ way of working, and I find I generally much prefer what I can achieve mixing in this way.

I hope Console EQ inspires you and helps you make the music you want to make.

Additional Info

If you have any questions or issues, please get in touch at elphnt.io/contact

Console EQ is made by Ableton Certified Trainer Tom Glendinning, also known as ELPHNT. For more devices, tutorials and free music production resources, visit elphnt.io

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