

Rhodes®

VARI-AMP



Quick Start Manual

Overview

WELCOME TO THE RHODES VARI-AMP

A new character-inducing plugin designed for use on keys, beats, guitars, and anything else you choose. It features a unique collection of sought-after and rare preamps, amps, and microphones, coupled with a suite of powerful sound-shaping effects and tools that give you full control over the character of any sound you process.

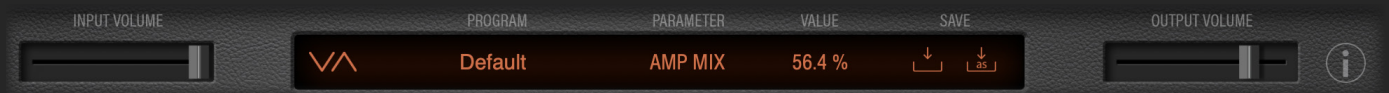
Rhodes has meticulously modelled the impulse responses from six classic and modern Rhodes preamps (ranging from MK1 Stage to MK8), eight amplifiers (including Rhodes Suitcase and Satellite), and eight workhorse microphones (including dynamics, condensers, and a ribbon). The preamp section features modelled EQ for each preamp, plus three drive circuits, including one modelled directly from the MK8. A dry/wet mix control allows seamless blending between dry and effected signals for exceptional versatility.

The amp/mic section includes a characterful Amp Drive control for tones ranging from subtle boost to full distortion, a mic phase flip switch, and its own dry/wet mix for nuanced blending. Rhodes wishes you many years of inspired music-making with Vari-Amp. If you need character by the bucketload, look no further.



Interface Walkthrough

TOP MENU BAR



- **Input Volume:** Connect your audio source and set this fader to taste.
Note: This control has a significant impact on how every module in the chain reacts. Use it to drive the circuitry harder for a wide range of sonic results.
- **Up/Down Arrows:** Navigate through the onboard presets.
- **Program Window:** Displays the active preset name.
- **Parameter Window:** Shows the selected control or parameter.
- **Value Window:** Displays the real-time value of the selected parameter.
- **Save:** Saves the current settings as a preset.
- **Save As:** Saves and names a new preset.
- **Output Volume:** Adjusts the overall output level of the plugin into your DAW.
- **Info ("i") Button:** Displays acknowledgments and build information.

Feature Rundown

PREAMP SECTION

- Available Models: Rhodes '79 Suitcase, Rhodes '82 Suitcase, MK7, MK8, Stage Passive, Hot Rod (custom 1970s preamp).
- ON/OFF Switch: Toggles the preamp section on or off.
- Preamp Models: Select from six preamp models using the chicken-head dial or by clicking the model name.
- Preamp EQ: Includes Low and High EQ faders for authentic frequency shaping based on the selected preamp model.
- EQ ON/OFF Switch: Enables or disables EQ independently of the preamp.
- Preamp Mix: Blends dry and preamp-processed signals for a wide range of tonal variation.
- Drive: Features three drive types (including MK8 circuit, saturation, and overdrive), selectable via the TYPE switch or by clicking directly on the circuit name.



AMP/MIC SECTION

- Amplifiers include Rhodes Suitcase, Satellite speakers, active PA, and four classic combo amps.
- Microphones include dynamic, condenser, and ribbon types.
- ON/OFF Switch: Toggles the Amp/Mic section in or out of the signal chain.
- Amp and Mic Selectors: Choose via chicken-head dials or by clicking the model name.
- Amp Gain: Adds subtle gain, width, or all-out distortion for synths, guitars, and more.
- Amp+Mic Mix: Blends Amp/Mic signal with either the preamp or dry input.
- Mic Phase: Flips mic polarity for phase alignment, especially useful on multi-mic setup.



Feature Rundown

COMPRESSION SECTION

- Characterful compressor suitable for subtle dynamics control or heavy pumping effects.
- ON/OFF Switch: Engages or bypasses compression.
- IN/OUT Meter: Displays input or post-compression level.
- Amount: Controls compression intensity.
- Makeup: Adjusts post-compression output gain.
- Mix: Blends dry and compressed signals.
- Pre/Post Switch: Places compressor before or after the Amp/Mic section.



REVERB SECTION

- Features bespoke reverb models from Rhodes Anthology: Spring, Plate, Room, and Hall.
- ON/OFF Switch: Engages or bypasses reverb.
- Type Switch: Selects between the four reverb models, or quickly select by clicking on the reverb model name.
- Time: Adjusts reverb decay length.
- Predelay: Controls delay before reverb onset for clarity.
- Cut Faders: Shape the reverb by cutting lows or highs.
- Dry/Wet Mix: Balances dry and wet signals.



Feature Rundown

GLOBAL EQ SECTION

- Powerful final-stage EQ for tone shaping.
- ON/OFF Switch: Engages or bypasses the EQ.
- Low Freq/Gain: Adjusts low-end frequency and boost/cut.
- Mid Freq/Gain: Adjusts mid-range frequency and boost/cut.
- High Freq/Gain: Adjusts high-end frequency and boost/cut.
- Pre/Post Switch: Positions EQ before or after the Reverb section.



We wish you many years of successful music creation with Rhodes Vari-Amp.

All the best from the Rhodes Team,

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