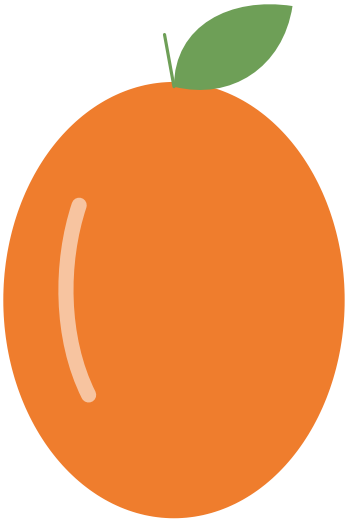


KA De-Verb

Instruction manual

Kumquat Audio · Edition 1.7.11 · October 2026

kumquataudio.com

NO. 4

KA De-Verb

Pulls a voice out of its room.

KA De-Verb pulls a voice out of its room. It takes away the echo and the wash that follow each sound, so the voice sounds closer and leaner. 0 is the sound as recorded.

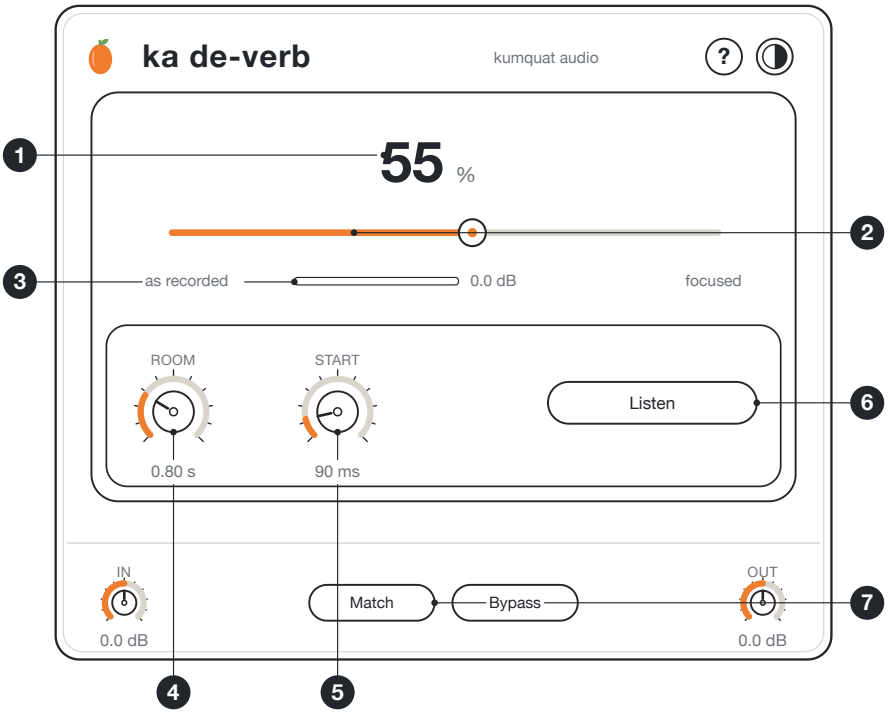


FIG. 1 The parts of KA De-Verb. The numbers are explained on the next page.

Parts

fig. 1

1. **Focus readout**
   How far the voice is being pulled out of its room.
2. **Focus**
   Left: as recorded. Right: the echo and wash behind the voice are taken away, so it sounds closer and leaner.
3. **Reduction bar**
   How much the sound is being turned down right now.
4. **Room**
   How long the room rings. Small rooms are short, halls are long.
5. **Start**
   How long after a sound begins the plug-in starts treating what follows as room.
6. **Listen**
   Plays only what is being removed.
7. **In, Out and Match**
   In turns the sound up or down before the plug-in hears it, and Out turns the result up or down. Bypass plays the sound without the plug-in. Match keeps the output as loud as the sound that came in, whatever In and the plug-in do, so you hear what a setting does and not just a change in loudness.

Operation

step by step

1. Put the plug-in on the voice track and play a passage where you can hear the room.
2. Set Room to about how long the room rings: a small room is a few tenths of a second, a hall two or three.
3. Raise Focus until the room has gone far enough. The bar under the slider shows how much is being turned down.
4. Move Start to taste: later keeps more of the original sound and the first reflections.
5. Press Listen to hear only what is being removed.

Controls and settings

range · start

Control	Range	Starts at	What it does
Focus	0 to 100 %	50 %	How far the voice is pulled out of its room.
Room	0.2 to 3.0 s	0.7 s	How long the room rings.
Start	20 ms and up	130 ms	How long after a sound begins the plug-in starts treating what follows as room.
Listen	on / off	off	Plays only what is being removed.
In / Out	In ±24, Out ±12 dB	0 dB	The two knobs under the meters: before and after the plug-in.
Match	on / off	off	Keeps the output as loud as the sound that came in, whatever In and the plug-in do. See In, Out and Gain Match.

TIP If the voice sounds dry and dead, bring Focus down a little and Start up. A little room is part of a natural voice.

Specifications

Formats	Audio Unit, VST3
Channels	mono or stereo
Delay	2048 samples (43 ms at 48 kHz)
Window	700 × 384, can be resized

How it works

a closer look

Every sound in a room is followed by its echo. KA De-Verb listens to how each frequency fades away after a sound, and takes away the part that is only ringing on, leaving the direct sound. That is why the voice comes closer.

Room tells it how long the ringing lasts, so that it knows what to look for. Start says how soon after a sound it may begin to take things away: the first reflections come just after the sound and are part of what makes it natural, so a later Start keeps more of them.

Focus is how much of the ringing is taken away. The bar under the slider shows it working. The plug-in looks ahead by 2048 samples to do this, and tells your music software.

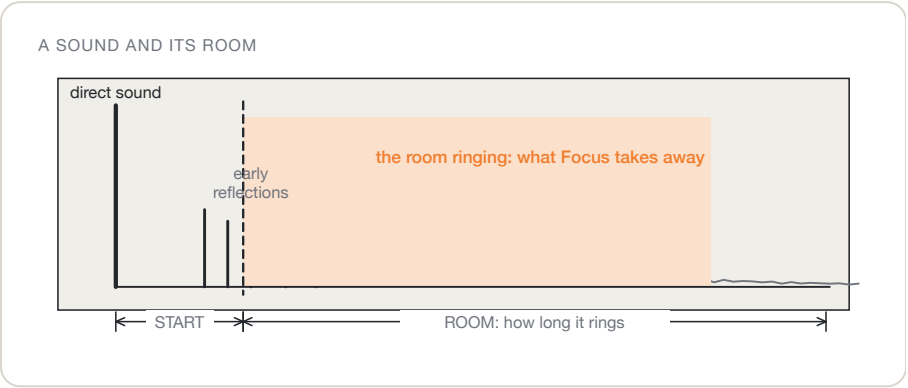


FIG. 2 A sound and its room: Start and Room set what is taken away.

EVERY INSERT PLUG-IN

In, Out and Gain Match

Along the bottom of most windows is a strip with two knobs, one under each level meter, and two buttons. In turns the sound up or down before the plug-in hears it, and Out turns the result up or down. Double-click either knob to return it to 0 dB. Bypass plays the sound without the plug-in (it stays in time with the other tracks, and fades in and out without a click); your music software's own bypass button for the plug-in does the same. The four plug-ins that read whole recordings, and KA Limiter, have the Bypass button at the top of the window instead.

A louder sound almost always seems better, even when it is not. That is how a setting can fool you: you turn something up, the sound gets louder, and you think it got better. Match takes that away. When it is on, the plug-in listens to how loud the sound is as it arrives and as it comes out, and turns the output up or down by the difference, slowly, so the two stay the same. That includes In: drive the plug-in harder and the output stays where it was. Now when you change a setting you hear what it did to the sound, and nothing else. Out is then yours to trim on top.

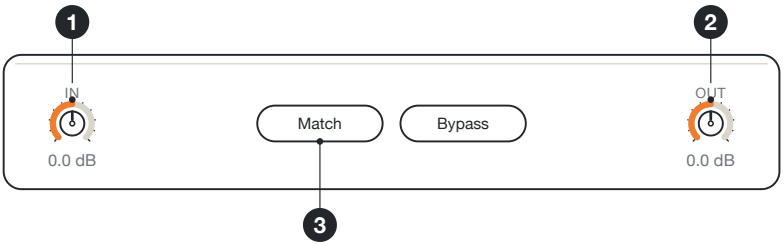


FIG. 3 The strip along the bottom of a window.

1 **In**
Turns the sound up or down before the plug-in hears it.

2 **Out**
Turns what comes out up or down.

3 **Match**
Keeps the output as loud as the sound that came in, whatever In and the plug-in do. The number beside it shows how much it is adding or taking away.

Use In to drive a plug-in harder or softer: more In into KA Saturator or KA Bus Comp gives more effect. Use Out to set the level you want to leave with; with Match on it moves the level up or down from the level that arrived. The number beside Match shows how much it is adding or taking away.

Who has what

In, Out and Match

Plug-in	The strip has	Note
KA De-Esser	In · Out · Match	Match is on hold while Listen is on.
KA De-Noise	In · Out · Match	Match is on hold while Listen is on.
KA De-Verb	In · Out · Match	Match is on hold while Listen is on.
KA De-Click	In · Out	It changes the level so little that matching is not needed.
KA EQ	In · Out · Match	Out is the level after the EQ and the suppressor.
KA Bus Comp	In · Out · Match	Makeup is still there as the compressor's own make-up gain.
KA Saturator	In · Out · Match	Drive already keeps the level close; Match finishes the job.
KA Zing	In · Out · Match	Match is on hold while Delta is on.
KA Contour	In · Out · Match	Match is on hold while Listen is on.
KA Mic Blend	In · Out	In is applied to both mics, including the sidechain.
KA Delay	In · Out	Mix is meant to change the level, so there is no Match.
KA Multiband Comp	In · Out · Match	Each band has its own Gain as well.
KA FET Comp	In · Out · Match	In is the compressor's Input: the threshold is fixed.
KA Opto Comp	In · Out · Match	Out is the compressor's make-up gain.
KA Rider	In · Out	Match would undo the ride, so there is none. Delta plays only the ride.
KA Chladni, KA Root	none	Instruments have no audio input, so no In, Out or Match: use the Level drawing.
KA Reverb	In · Out	Mix is meant to change the level, so there is no Match.

TIP To set a compressor or a saturator fairly: turn Match on, switch the plug-in off and on, and choose the setting that sounds best at the same loudness.

CAUTION KA Limiter has no In and Out: its Threshold is its input and its Ceiling is its output. The four plug-ins that read whole recordings do not have the strip. Every plug-in has a Bypass button.

CARE

Care and troubleshooting

If this happens	Do this
A plug-in does not appear in the list	Restart the music software. In Logic Pro, open the Plug-in Manager, select the Kumquat plug-ins and choose Reset & Rescan Selection.
An old name is still showing	Quit Logic with Cmd+Q and open it again. If it persists, remove the old copies from /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components.
My key was not accepted	Copy all of it, from KA1 to the end, with no spaces added or lost. A key for one plug-in does not unlock the others.
The pop-up help does not show	Press the “?” at the top of the window to turn it on. It is one choice for all the plug-ins.
Which part of the picture does a knob change?	Point at the knob, or hold it down while you turn it: the part of the picture it controls lights up, with the knob’s name and value.
KA Drum Gate, Silence Trim, Auto Mixer or Time Align shows a message instead of a picture	Open Logic Pro using Rosetta, put the plug-in first in the Audio FX list, select a region and press play.
The sound is late	KA De-Click, De-Verb, De-Noise, Contour, Mic Blend, Saturator (it oversamples), EQ (with the suppressor), Multiband (in Linear phase) and Limiter delay the sound a little and tell the music software, which lines everything up. Do not compensate by hand. For playing through a plug-in, the Saturator, EQ and Multiband have a Live switch that takes the delay away; the compressors, De-Esser, Delay, Reverb and Rider have no delay at all.
A window is too small or too big	Drag the corner at the bottom right. The size is remembered, and it is the same for all the plug-ins: make one bigger and the others open that big.
The Limiter pumps	Leave Release on Auto, or set 60 to 100 ms. A release of a millisecond or two is the dirtiest setting.

If something is not right, write to **audiokumquat@gmail.com** and say which plug-in, which music software, and what you were doing.

FOR YOUR OWN NOTES

Notes