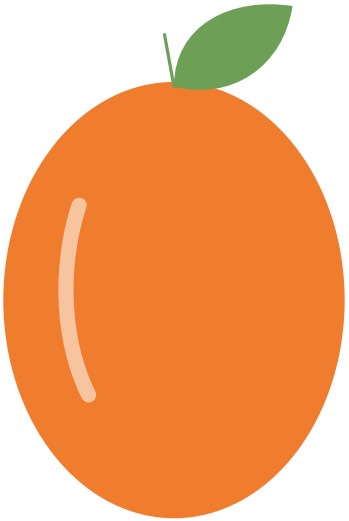


KA Silence Trim

Instruction manual

Kumquat Audio · Edition 1.7.11 · October 2026

kumquataudio.com

NO. 9

KA Silence Trim

Finds the silences in a recording and keeps what matters.

KA Silence Trim finds the silences in a recording and keeps what matters. It reads the whole clip, shows what it would keep, and writes a trimmed file you can drag into your project. The file is as long as the clip, with the cut parts silent, so everything stays in time.

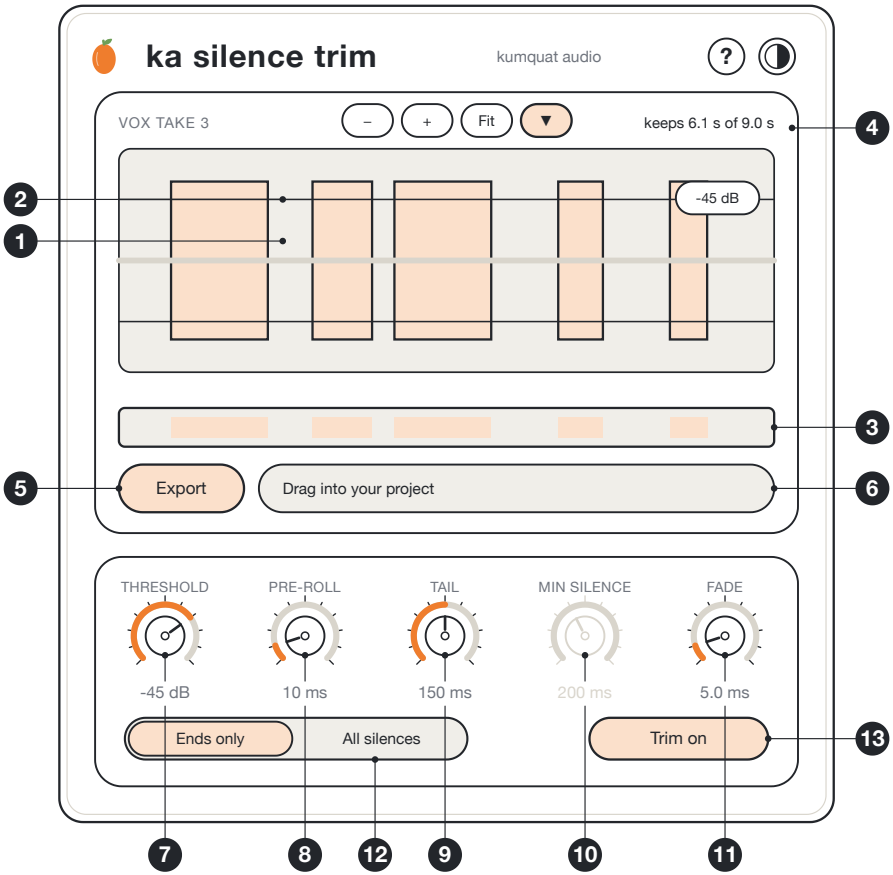


FIG. 1 The parts of KA Silence Trim. The numbers are explained on the next page.

Parts

fig. 1

1. **Wave view**
   The recording: orange is what is kept, the faint band is the silence that is cut.
2. **Threshold line**
   The thin lines mark the threshold. Drag them up and down.
3. **Overview**
   The whole clip at a glance; drag it to move along.
4. **Readout**
   How much is kept, of how much there is.
5. **Export**
   Writes the trimmed audio to a file now.
6. **Drag handle**
   Pick it up and drop it into your project: the file is written as you pick it up.
7. **Threshold**
   Anything quieter than this counts as silence.
8. **Pre-roll**
   How much to keep before a sound starts, so the attack is never clipped.
9. **Tail**
   How much to keep after a sound ends, so it can ring out.
10. **Min silence**
    With All silences: a gap shorter than this is left alone.
11. **Fade**
    The length of the fade at each cut.
12. **Ends only / All silences**
    Cut only the silence at the start and the end, or the gaps in the middle too.
13. **Trim on**
    Turn it off to hear the original recording.

Operation

step by step

1. Open Logic Pro using Rosetta, and put the plug-in first in the Audio FX list of an audio track.
2. Select a clip and press play. The wave view fills in, with orange where it keeps the sound.
3. Set Threshold (or drag the threshold lines in the picture): anything quieter than this counts as silence. The readout shows how much is kept.
4. Set Pre-roll and Tail so that attacks are never clipped and sounds can ring out. Fade sets the small fade at each cut.
5. Choose Ends only (cut the silence at the start and end) or All silences (cut the gaps in the middle as well; Min silence says how long a gap must be).
6. Press Export, or pick up the drag handle and drop it in your project. The file is written to Music/Snip.

Controls and settings

range · start

Control	Range	Starts at	What it does
Threshold	–70 to –10 dB	–45 dB	Anything quieter counts as silence.
Pre-roll	0 to 200 ms	10 ms	How much to keep before a sound starts.
Tail	0 to 1000 ms	150 ms	How much to keep after a sound ends.
Min silence	20 to 2000 ms	200 ms	With All silences: a shorter gap is left alone.
Fade	1 to 50 ms	5 ms	The length of the fade at each cut.
Mode	Ends only / All silences	Ends only	Which silences are cut.
Trim on	on / off	on	Off plays the original recording.

TIP Drop the exported file at the start of the clip. If you want slices, use Strip Silence in Logic on it afterwards.

Specifications

Formats	Audio Unit only (needs ARA)
Hosts	Logic Pro, run with Rosetta
Output	one WAV file, as long as the clip
Window	700 × 620, can be resized

How it works

a closer look

KA Silence Trim reads the whole clip and measures its level. Anything below Threshold counts as silence. For every stretch of sound it keeps Pre-roll before it and Tail after it, and puts a small Fade at each cut.

With Ends only, only the silence before the first sound and after the last one is cut. With All silences, the gaps in the middle are cut too, unless they are shorter than Min silence.

The exported file is as long as the clip, with the cut parts silent, and it is written to Music/Snip. Because nothing is moved, it lines up with the original: drop it at the start of the clip.

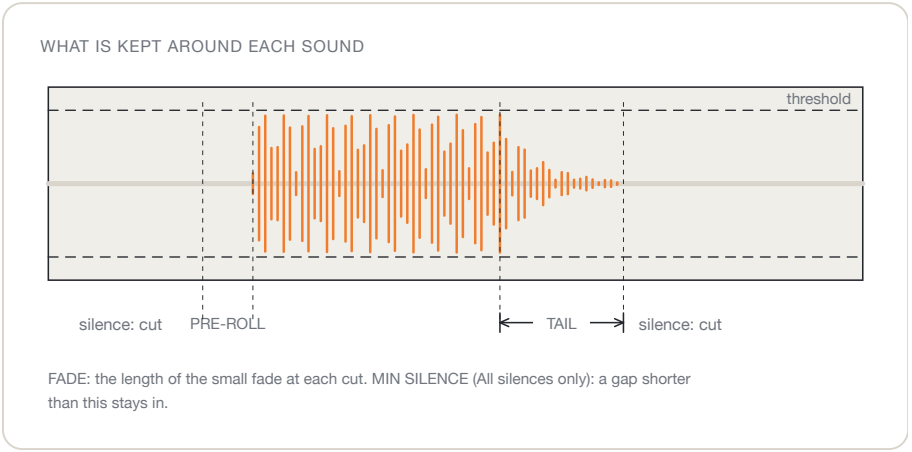


FIG. 2 What is kept around each sound.

ARA

Plug-ins that read whole recordings

KA Silence Trim, KA Drum Gate, KA Auto Mixer and KA Time Align read whole recordings, which is something only a few music programs allow: it is called ARA. They come as Audio Units only.

Today they need Logic Pro to be opened with Rosetta. Select Logic Pro in the Finder, press Cmd+I, tick “Open using Rosetta”, and open Logic again. The other plug-ins do not need it.

Put each one first in the Audio FX list of its track. Select a region and press play: the window fills as the plug-in reads the audio.

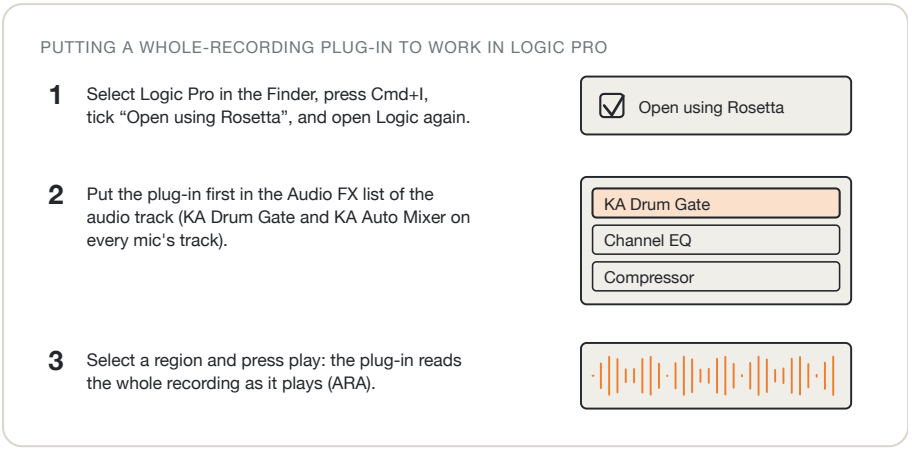


FIG. 3 Three steps to put one of them to work.

CAUTION If the window says it is not connected to Logic’s audio, one of the three steps has been missed: Rosetta, the first place in the list, or a region that is selected and playing.

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