

SUBSTANCE

HYBRID BASS ENGINE · by Mister RickRoss

Your bass is the source. SUBSTANCE learns how you respond and expands the tone without erasing who you are.

Built in Brazil by Mister RickRoss, Neural Chaos Architect, a bass player of 28 years and a School of Rock teacher.



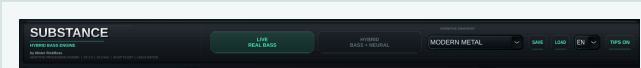
Main screen: analysis, ROSSIFY core, personalities, snapshots and performance controls.

START HERE

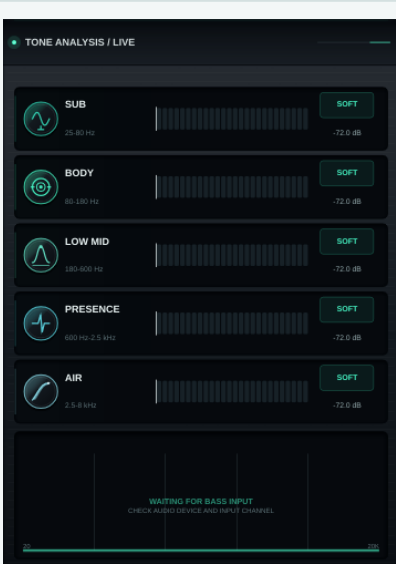
INPUT → TUNER → LEARN MY BASS → PERSONALITY → ROSSIFY → SOUND CONTROLS

One interface, six zones of decision

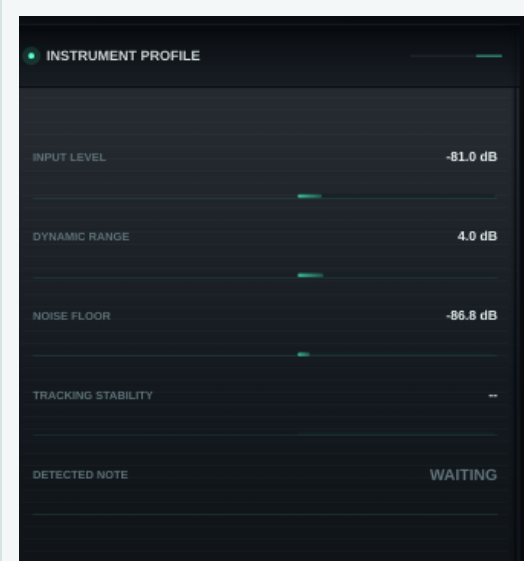
The Home screen reacts to what is happening in the audio. Use the screenshots as a map: start on the left, pick a personality, and only then go deeper into the processing.



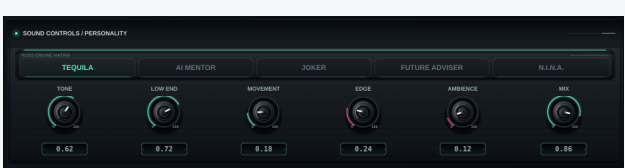
Header · LIVE/HYBRID modes, preset and language



Tone Analysis · five useful regions of the spectrum



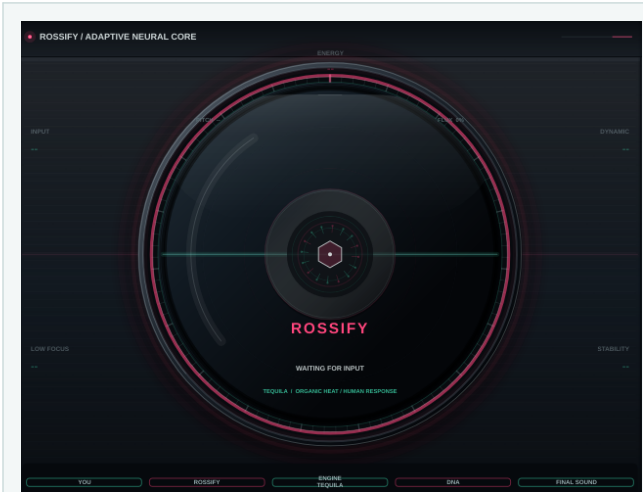
Instrument Profile · what the plugin learned



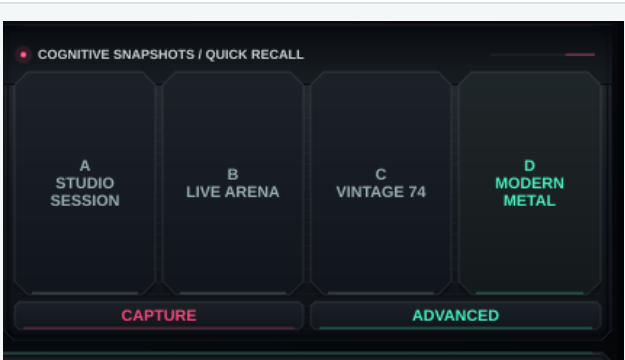
Sound Controls · six musical macros

Watch ROSSIFY think

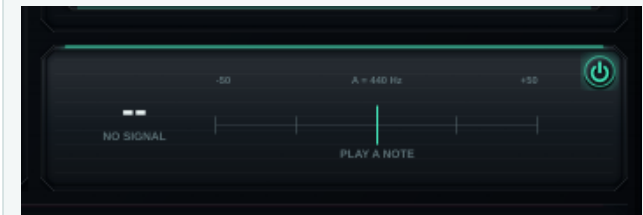
ROSSIFY is not a decorative effect: it pulls dynamics, tracking, frequency and personality together into one adaptive chain.



ROSSIFY core · processing state and response



Cognitive Snapshots · four recall points



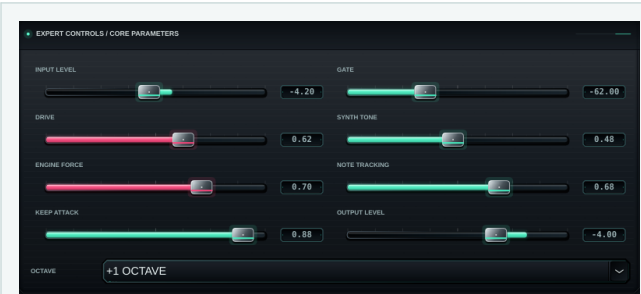
Chromatic tuner · note, cents and stability



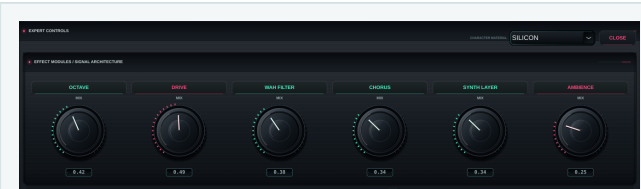
Needle VU · input and headroom

When you want to go past the macros

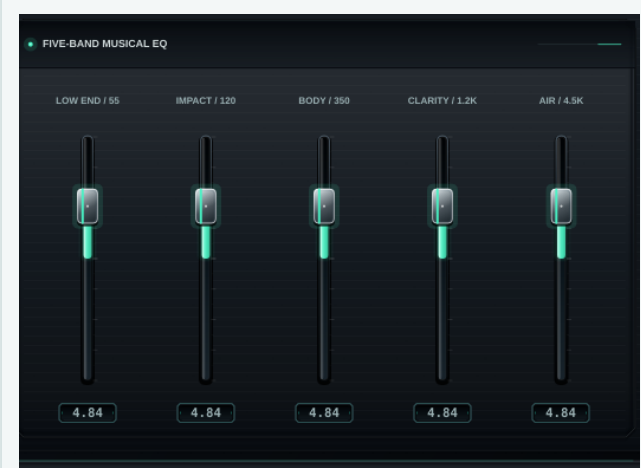
Advanced mode exposes the DNA material, the neural modules, the octaves and the fine controls. Come here after the base sound already works.



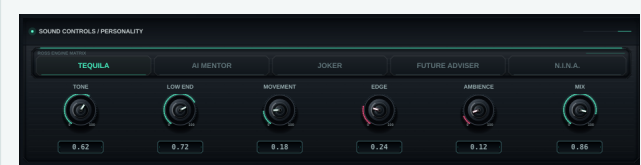
Neural Layer · tracking, sub mix, attack and octave



Expert Controls · fine parameters and Character Material



Graphic equaliser · five musical bands



Personalities · Tequila, AI Mentor, Joker, Future Adviser and N.I.N.A.

First launch

The welcome screen appears the first time you open it:

- **START 15-DAY PRO TRIAL:** unlocks every Pro feature for 15 days.
- **CONTINUE WITH FREE:** starts straight into the Free version.

The trial begins when you click the button. No card required. After it ends, audio keeps working in Free mode.

SUBSTANCE Pro is **R\$ 297** at launch, a lifetime licence with 1.x updates included. It is not a subscription.

To bring the screen back while testing, press **Ctrl + Shift + W** on Linux and Windows, or **Cmd + Shift + W** on macOS.

Quick setup with a Scarlett

1. Plug the bass into the Scarlett input.
2. Open SUBSTANCE on an audio channel in your DAW.
3. Select the Scarlett as the audio device.
4. Arm the channel for recording and turn monitoring on.
5. Play hard and set **INPUT** without letting the channel clip.
6. Check the footer for **AUDIO IN / ACTIVE**.

The signal should show up in **Tone Analysis**, in the tuner and on the needle VU.

Windows: installing when available

The Windows version is being finished. Once the download is released, the process will be:

1. Download **SUBSTANCE-Setup.exe**.
2. Run the installer and follow the steps on screen.
3. Open your DAW and rescan VST3 plugins.

The VST3 goes to **Program Files/Common Files/VST3**. Anyone who buys Pro gets the Windows version at no extra cost.

Recommended flow

INPUT
→ TUNER
→ LEARN MY BASS
→ PERSONALITY
→ ROSSIFY
→ SOUND CONTROLS
→ HYBRID, if needed
→ EXPERT CONTROLS, last

1. Tune

Turn the tuner on and play one note at a time. The needle shows the distance in cents. The tuner can be switched off without disabling the internal tracking.

2. Learn My Bass

Play for about 30 seconds, using low notes, mid notes, hard attacks, long notes and the articulation you actually use. SUBSTANCE records dynamics, noise, frequency balance and stability.

3. Personality

Pick a sonic identity:

- **TEQUILA** — warm, organic and vintage.

- **AI MENTOR** — clean, stable and defined.
- **JOKER** — aggressive, reactive and unpredictable.
- **FUTURE ADVISER** — modern, wide and mix ready.
- **N.I.N.A.** — learns the way you play and adapts its decisions.

4. ROSSIFY

Click the central core to analyse the bass and build a measured starting point. With ROSSIFY on, it reads Bass Vision and sets an initial base of macros, EQ and conditioning. Click again to enter **Manual**: the core stops applying auto adjustments, but Engine, DNA, modules, EQ and every control stay active. ROSSIFY is not an audio bypass.

5. Sound Controls

- **TONE** — colour, density and harmonics.
- **LOW END** — weight and low frequency extension.
- **MOVEMENT** — modulation and motion.
- **EDGE** — aggression and musical instability.
- **AMBIENCE** — depth and space.
- **MIX** — overall amount of processing.

HYBRID

HYBRID mode keeps the attack of the real bass and adds tracked layers. Use:

- **SUB MIX** to set how much sub comes through;
- **ATTACK KEEP** to preserve fingers, pick or slap;
- **TRACKING** on FAST for quick phrases or STABLE for long notes;
- **SUB OCTAVE** to choose -2, -1 or +1 octave.

Expert Controls

Only open **EXPERT CONTROLS** after you have found a personality that works.

Suggested order:

OCTAVE → DRIVE → WAH FILTER → CHORUS → SYNTH LAYER → AMBIENCE → CAB IR → EQ

The character material changes how the processing responds:

TUBE, TAPE, GERMANIUM, SILICON, ANALOG, DIGITAL, BROKEN, CRYSTAL, NEURAL and ORGANIC.

The vertical and horizontal faders have a numeric readout, ticks and a metal handle. Double click an EQ fader to return it to centre.

- **WAH FILTER**: up to around 60% Mix it adds subtle movement; above that it opens into a more expressive sweep, while the low end stays protected.
- **CAB IR**: choose one of the five internal cabinets or use **LOAD WAV** to load your own impulse response. The CAB IR knob controls the blend; at 0% the dry signal passes untouched.

Presets

- The four snapshot slots are there for fast recall.
- **SAVE** and **LOAD** store complete user presets.
- Files use the .mrrosspreset extension.
- The default directory is Documents/MR ROSS Presets.

A preset holds Engine, macros, DNA, modules, EQ, mode, language, tooltips and instrument state.

Tooltips and language

- TIPS ON/OFF turns the contextual explanations on or off.
- Hover a control and wait about 600 ms.
- The EN / PT-BR selector changes the interface and the tooltips.

Free and Pro

Free

Includes LIVE, tuner, tone analysis, basic Learn My Bass, basic ROSSIFY, the main macros and the starting personalities.

Pro

Includes HYBRID, every Engine, Expert Controls, DNA, modules, the full EQ, user presets, snapshots and future expansions.

Shortcuts

| Shortcut | Action |

|---|---|

| Ctrl/Cmd + D | Open or close Expert Controls |

| Ctrl/Cmd + Shift + W | Bring the welcome screen back |

| Esc | Close Expert Controls |

Common problems

The VU does not move

Check the audio device, the input channel, DAW monitoring and the Scarlett gain. The VU depends on the signal the plugin receives.

The tuner does not detect the note

Play a single isolated note, reduce noise and adjust INPUT. Very weak or distorted notes hurt the tracking.

The bass went silent

Check DAW bypass, the correct output and LIVE mode. ROSSIFY in Manual does not mute the audio and does not switch the effects off. In Free, the real audio stays available even when Pro features are locked.

The sound is muddy

Lower LOW END or SUB MIX, check the BODY region and pull AMBIENCE back. Then compare against the kick at matched volume.

The synth is unstable

Play cleaner notes, set TRACKING to STABLE and lower SYNTH LAYER. The tracked synth depends on the quality of the bass signal.

Support

When reporting a problem, include the operating system, DAW, audio interface, sample rate, the mode you were using and the Engine selected. Whenever possible, send a screenshot and describe the steps that reproduce it.