



Gaines Metric73 Tech M-73T

INTEGRATED CONSOLE EQ

USER MANUAL · v1.0 · macOS (Apple Silicon) · AU / VST3 / AAX

— OVERVIEW

M-73T is an integrated console EQ. It puts a 73-style Class A channel EQ and a TECH-style passive program EQ on the same strip, and feeds both into **one combined response**. Every control you touch, from either section, shows up on a single amber curve above them. What you see on the curve is what the audio gets.

Under the EQ sits a two-stage transformer **DRIVE** and three voicing **MODES** (Clean, Vintage and Gaines). Use them to take M-73T from a straight, transparent tool to an EQ with console weight and iron colour.

ONE CURVE, TWO VOCABULARIES

Use the 73 section for the moves you'd make on a channel strip: high-pass, shelf the lows, carve or push a mid, lift the top, and low-pass. Use TECH for broad musical strokes, like the classic simultaneous low boost and cut, or a wide high-frequency lift. Both feed the same filter chain, so you never have to guess how the two sections are interacting.

— QUICK START

- Insert M-73T on a track, bus or the mix bus. It opens at 125% in **GAINES** mode.
- Pick a starting point from **Presets: FLAVOR** for overall tone, or **SOURCES** for a specific instrument.
- Shape the 73 bands with their knobs, or drag the coloured dots directly on the curve.
- Switch on **TECH** with its **IN** button for broad low-end and air moves.
- Add **DRIVE** to taste, and change **MODE** to change the plugin's underlying voice.
- Toggle **BYPASS** to compare. Bypass keeps the same latency, so the A/B doesn't shift in time.

— INTERFACE



Metric73 Tech, shown at 100%. Right-click anywhere to resize from 75% to 200%.

- 1** **BYPASS** turns the whole plugin off. It glows amber while bypassed.

2 **MODE** sets the voicing: CLEAN, VINTAGE or GAINES.

3 **Presets** opens the menu. The arrows step through it.

4 **STEREO / MID / SIDE** sets what the EQ processes.

5 **ANALYZER** turns the spectrum on or off. PRE and POST pick what it measures.
- 6** **Input and output meters** are peak meters with a dB readout.

7 **Curve display:** drag a band's dot to set it, double-click to reset.

8 **73 • Class A:** the channel EQ and transformer DRIVE.

9 **TECH:** the program EQ, plus TILT.

— HEADER & TOOLBAR

CONTROL	FUNCTION
BYPASS	Bypasses all processing. Audio still passes through the oversampler, so the reported latency and timing stay identical whether bypass is on or off.
MODE	CLEAN, VINTAGE or GAINES (default). See Modes below.
PRESETS	Factory presets grouped as FLAVOR and SOURCES. Loading a preset switches all five 73 bands in.
STEREO / MONO	Shows the track format, which is detected automatically. Click it to go back to full-signal EQ from MID or SIDE.

MID / SIDE	Applies the EQ to the mid (centre) or side (width) signal only. Available on stereo tracks.
ANALYZER · PRE · POST	Turns the live spectrum on or off. PRE measures the incoming signal; POST measures the EQ'd signal (default).

— THE CURVE DISPLAY

The amber line is the combined response of the 73 section, TECH, TILT and the current mode voicing, on a ± 12 dB scale from 20 Hz to 20 kHz. It's calculated from the same filter coefficients the audio uses, so it's an exact picture of the EQ, not an approximation.

ACTION	RESULT
Drag a dot	Left and right sets frequency. Up and down sets gain on LOW, MID and HIGH. The grey HPF and LPF dots only move left and right.
Double-click a dot	Sets a gain band back to 0 dB, or sends HPF or LPF back to its off position (20 Hz or 20 kHz).
Hollow dot	That band is switched out.
Spectrum colour	The analyzer is tinted to match the 73 bands: red lows, teal mids and purple highs. It turns grey where the HPF or LPF is cutting.

— 73 · CLASS A

A channel-strip EQ with five bands and a transformer stage. **Click a band's frequency knob to switch that band in or out.** When a band is in, its knob glows in the band colour. When it's out, the readout shows OFF and its GAIN knob dims.

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
HPF	20 Hz – 20 kHz	20 Hz	High-pass filter. 20 Hz is effectively open.
LOW	35 – 220 Hz	110 Hz	Low shelf frequency.
GAIN	± 12 dB	0 dB	Low shelf boost or cut.
MID	200 Hz – 1.6 kHz	700 Hz	Mid bell frequency. The bell is wider in VINTAGE mode.
GAIN	± 12 dB	0 dB	Mid boost or cut.
HIGH	1.2 – 16 kHz	3.2 kHz	High shelf frequency.
GAIN	± 12 dB	0 dB	High shelf boost or cut.
LPF	20 Hz – 20 kHz	20 kHz	Low-pass filter. 20 kHz is effectively open.
DRIVE	0 – 10	0	Transformer saturation. See below.

Transformer DRIVE

DRIVE runs a transformer saturation stage at 2× oversampling. Across the lower half of the knob a single transformer adds density and soft harmonics. From 5 to 10 a second, harder transformer fades in, with more drive and more asymmetric (even-harmonic) warmth. The **TRANSFORMER** light shows the state: **grey** is off, **blue** is the first stage and **red** means the second stage is engaged.

DRIVE AND MODE

In CLEAN, DRIVE is bypassed and its knob is greyed out. In VINTAGE and GAINES, a small amount of transformer colour is always there, even at DRIVE 0. That's part of the mode's voice, and VINTAGE carries more of it than GAINES.

TECH

A passive-style program EQ for broad strokes. Press **IN** to engage it (it glows amber). While TECH is out, its six knobs dim but can still be adjusted, so you can set it up before switching it in. The centre button cycles which halves are active: **BOTH**, **LOW** or **HIGH**.

CONTROL	RANGE	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
LF BOOST	0 – 12 dB	0 dB	Low shelf boost at FREQ.
LF FREQ	20 – 200 Hz	60 Hz	Sets the low boost frequency. The attenuation follows it automatically.
LF ATTEN	0 – 12 dB	0 dB	Shelf cut placed at 3× FREQ. Use it together with BOOST for the classic trick: a firm bottom with the low-mid mud pulled out.
HF BOOST	0 – 12 dB	0 dB	Bell boost centred at 5 kHz.
HF BW	0.3 – 3.0 oct	1.0 oct	Width of the high boost. Higher values are broader and smoother.
HF ATTEN	0 – 12 dB	0 dB	High shelf cut at 12 kHz, to tame or round off the very top.
TILT	0 – 100%	50%	Tilts the whole spectrum by up to ±4 dB around the mids. Above 50% is brighter and leaner; below 50% is darker and fuller. TILT works whether TECH is in or out.

MODES

MODE sets the plugin's underlying voice, which sits under everything you dial in. The voicing is part of the combined curve, so you can see it on the display.

MODE	CHARACTER
CLEAN	Flat voicing, and DRIVE is bypassed. Only the EQ you set is applied. The choice for surgical work.
VINTAGE	Classic console weight: a gentle lift at 90 Hz and a soft top roll-off above 9 kHz, a wider MID bell, and warmer, more even-harmonic transformer colour.
GAINES	The default. Tightens the sub-sonic range below 12 Hz, adds a touch of weight around 45 Hz and subtle air above 11 kHz, with lighter transformer colour. It's polished without sounding vintage.

PRESETS

Presets load the full 73, DRIVE, TECH and TILT setup and switch all five 73 bands in. They're starting points: adjust them by ear for your source.

Flavor

Flat Pop Genie Sweet Swede Clear Peak Shiner Power-Got Jazz Snappy Schnee Nickel Clean

Sources

- Bass Guitar
- Synth Bass
- Bass DI
- Bass Amp
- Piano
- Electric Guitar
- Acoustic Guitar
- Strings
- Brass
- Lead Vocal – Female
- Lead Vocal – Male
- Background Vocals
- Drum Bus
- Kick – Punch
- Kick – Sub
- Overheads
- Percussion
- Room Mics
- Snare – Crack
- Snare – Fat
- Mix Bus 1
- Mix Bus 2
- Mix Bus 3

SPECIFICATIONS

SPEC	DETAIL
Formats	Audio Unit (AU), VST3, AAX
Platform	macOS — Apple Silicon
Filters	RBJ cookbook biquads; the display and the audio use identical coefficients
Saturation	Two-stage transformer model, 2× oversampled (polyphase IIR)
Latency	A small fixed latency from the oversampler, reported to the host and constant in bypass
Channel config	Mono and stereo; Mid/Side on stereo tracks
Window	Opens at 125%; right-click to resize from 75% to 200%; fixed aspect ratio



Support: questions, issues or feature requests: gainesaudio63@gmail.com. Please include your receipt, your DAW and macOS version, and a short description of what you're hearing or seeing.

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