Antares

ASPIRE

USER GUIDE

Contents

Introducing Aspire

Aspire is the first tool for modifying a voice's breathiness independently of its harmonic content. With Aspire, you can match a vocal quality to a performance style by decreasing or increasing a voice's natural breathiness.

Aspire analyzes a vocal in real time and separates the aspiration noise (breathiness) from the harmonic content.

It then allows you to adjust the amount of aspiration noise, and affect its character independently by applying a parametric EQ to the noise component.

It also includes a real-time display that lets you visualize the effect of the aspiration noise processing.

Whether reducing vocal rasp or adding a bit of smokiness, Aspire allows modification of the amount and quality of a voice's breathiness—without affecting the vocal's harmonic characteristics.

Quick Start – License Activation

Activation Instructions

Before we can use Aspire, we need to activate our license first using the Auto-Tune Central application. Please follow the steps below, or watch our instructional video to get started:

Step 1: Install Auto-Tune Central

Auto-Tune Central is Antares' download manager, where you can install your plug-ins and manage their activations. If you don't have it installed on your computer yet, visit our website here to download the latest installer. After downloading, run the installer.

After installation is complete, you can find Auto-Tune Central in your computer's applications folder:

MacOS
/Applications

Windows
C:\Program Files\Antares Audio Technologies

Step 2: Open Auto-Tune Central and Log In

On the login screen in Auto-Tune Central, enter the email address and password for your Antares account.

If you purchased your plug-in license directly from our website (antarestech.com), navigate to the Plug-Ins tab to install and manage your license activations.

If your purchase was made through a third party, please follow the instructions in Step 3. Otherwise, skip to Step 4.

Step 3: Navigate to the Redeem a License Tab

In the top banner of Auto-Tune Central, select "Redeem a License." Enter your 25-digit registration code, then click **Redeem and Activate**.

Step 4. Install Your Plug-In

Click the blue **Install** button next to your license. If you have an Auto-Tune Unlimited subscription or similar plug-in bundle, you can install all of the included plug-ins with one click using the Install All button.

***Note**: If an update is available for your plug-in, the blue Install button will be replaced with a yellow **Update** button. Click the **Update** button to install the latest version of your plug-in.*

Step 5. Activate Your License

Click the blue **Activate** button. Each license can be activated on up to two locations simultaneously. You may activate your license onto a computer, a physical iLok dongle, or a combination of the two options.

See this FAQ page for more information on iLok license management.

After activating your license, you're ready to use your Antares plug-in(s) in your DAW!

Step 6: Open Aspire In Your DAW

Below, you'll find instructions on how to insert Aspire onto a track in various compatible DAWs:

Pro Tools
Choose an empty insert slot on one of your audio tracks, instrument tracks, or buses. Then select Aspire from the pop-up menu in the “Pitch Shift” and “Effect” Categories, as well as the Antares Manufacturer list.

Logic Pro
Choose an empty insert slot on one of your audio tracks, instrument tracks or buses and select Aspire from the pop-up menu. You will find Aspire in:
Audio Units > Antares section (named Aspire).

Ableton Live
In either Session or Arrangement View, select the track you would like to place Aspire on by clicking the track name.

At the top left of Ableton's interface, click on the Plug-in Device Browser icon. From the plug-ins list, double-click Aspire, or drag it onto the track.

Cubase
Choose an empty insert slot, for example in the Mixer, and select Aspire from the menu that appears.

Studio One
Click the '+' button next to the Inserts tab of an audio track, and select 'Aspire' from the drop-down menu. Alternatively, drag and drop the plug-in from the Antares Effects folder.

Reaper
Click the ‘FX’ button next to the track name of an audio track, and select ‘Aspire’ from the EQ or Dynamics category.

Digital Performer
In the Digital Performer Mixing Board, click an empty insert slot to open the Insert Effects list. Select Aspire from the list, or use the search bar to locate it quickly.

Getting Started With Aspire

Follow these steps to get started with Aspire

Choose Whether to Increase, Reduce, or EQ the Aspiration Noise

The Increase/Reduce switch lets you choose between two different modes of operation.

Choose Increase to boost all of the aspiration noise, and/or to use the EQ controls to selectively boost or cut a specific frequency band of the aspiration noise in the audio signal.

Choose Reduce to decrease all the aspiration noise (breathiness) in the audio signal.

Choose How Much to Increase or Reduce the Aspiration Noise

If you've chosen the Reduce setting adjust the Reduction knob to lower the level of the aspiration noise.

If you've chosen the Increase setting adjust the Increase knob to boost the level of the aspiration noise.

Apply Parametric EQ to the Aspiration Noise

If you've chosen the Increase setting for the Increase/Reduce switch, use the Frequency, Q and Gain controls to apply EQ to the aspiration noise.

Check the Result in the Display

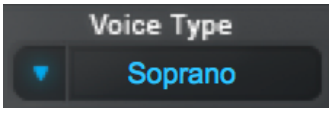
The Display gives you a graphic representation of how Aspire is processing your audio.

The red line represents the aspiration noise, the white line represents the harmonic content, and the green line represents that parametric EQ curve.

Controls

Audio Input Controls

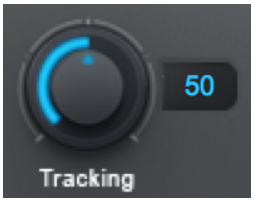
Voice Type



The **Vocal Range** menu lets you select the pitch range of your track, to optimize Aspire's pitch tracking algorithm.

Options include Soprano, Alto/Tenor, Baritone/Bass, and Instrument.

Tracking



In order to accurately analyze the input, Aspire requires a periodically repeating waveform, such as a voice or solo instrument.

The **Tracking** control determines how much variation is allowed in the incoming waveform for Aspire to still consider it periodic.

If you're working with a well-isolated solo signal you can typically leave the Tracking control at its default value.

If your signal is noisy or not well-isolated, or if it's a particularly breathy voice, you may need to set it to a higher value. If you're encountering artifacts such as clicking or popping, try setting it to a lower value.

Aspiration Increase/Reduction Controls

Increase/Reduce

The **Increase/Reduce** switch lets you choose between increasing and reducing the aspiration noise in the audio signal.

When the **Increase** button is selected, the **Reduction** knob is disabled. When the **Reduce** button is selected, the **Increase** knob and the **Aspiration EQ Controls** are disabled.

Choose **Reduce** if you'd like to decrease all the aspiration noise in the audio signal.

Choose **Increase** if you'd like to boost all of the aspiration noise, or if you'd like to use the **EQ controls** to selectively boost or cut a specific frequency band of the aspiration noise in the audio signal.

Reduction

The **Reduction** control lets you choose how much to reduce the level of the aspiration noise. The range is from 0 to -12 dB.

Changes to the Reduction setting will be reflected in the red aspiration curve on the **Display**.

Increase

The **Increase** control lets you choose how much to boost the level of aspiration noise. The range is from 0 to 12 dB.

Changes to the Increase setting will be reflected in the red aspiration curve on the **Display**.

Aspiration EQ Controls

The **Aspiration EQ Controls** let you apply a one-band parametric EQ to just the aspiration noise within the signal, and not to the main harmonic content.

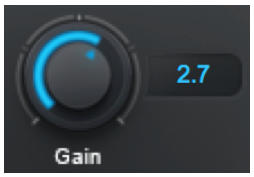
Frequency

The **Frequency** control selects the center frequency of the band to be boosted or cut. The range is from 0 to 4000 Hz.

Q

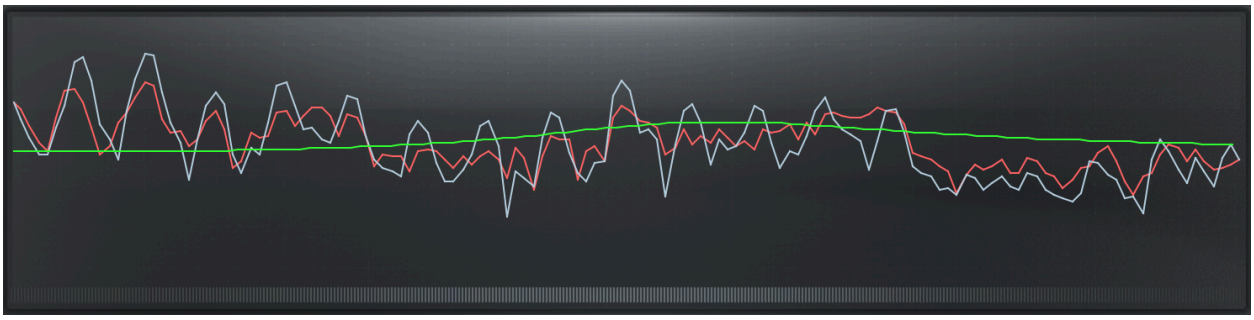
The **Q** control lets you adjust the width of the frequency band to be boosted or cut. Low Q values result in a wide bandwidth, and high values result in a narrow bandwidth.

Gain



The **Gain** control lets you set the amount of boost or cut that will be applied to the selected frequency band.

Display



The **Display** gives you a graphic representation of how Aspire is processing your audio.

The red line represents the aspiration noise, the white line represents the harmonic content, and the green line represents that parametric EQ curve.