



IR Live

Convolution Reverb for Live Sound

User Guide



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Introduction

Welcome

Thank you for choosing Waves! To get the most out of your new IR-Live plugin, please take a moment to read this user guide. For more information, visit the IR-Live product page at www.waves.com. We also recommend that you become familiar with the Waves Support pages: www.waves.com/support. There, you'll find technical articles on installation, troubleshooting, system requirements, and Waves contact information.

Product Overview

Waves IR-Live is an impulse-response-based convolution reverb designed with the live sound engineer in mind. IR-Live delivers quick results with easy access to mission-critical controls, and includes presets by leading FOH engineers, providing the go-to reverb sounds they've developed over their years of professional experience.

SoundGrid® and MultiRack Native compatible, IR-Live can be used with leading live digital consoles, in conjunction with dedicated SoundGrid DSP Servers designed to handle the requirements of real-time low-latency performance. It is also compatible with the LV1 mixing console.



Mathematical recalculations are made whenever you change your pre-delay, reverb time, or damping, so a short transition fade will occur. Therefore, we recommend setting these parameters prior to showtime.

Output and mix controls do not require these calculations and may safely be adjusted during performances.

If you import your own custom IRs, always remember to take them with you when moving between systems, since IRs are not saved with Waves preset files.

Concepts and Terminology

A convolution reverb blends together (or “convolves”) an input signal with another type of audio signal called an “impulse response.” In the world of audio, these impulse responses (IRs) contain the sampled characteristics of a particular performance space or device. IRs are imported into the IR-Live, which uses them as filters consisting of thousands of reflections. This results in the input signal actually being placed in the IR space. A convolution reverb differs from a synthetic reverb, which uses algorithms to simulate the sound of a reverberant space.

Components

WaveShell technology enables us to split Waves processors into smaller plugins, which we call **components**. Having a choice of components for a particular processor gives you the flexibility to choose the configuration best suited to your material.

Waves IR-Live includes three components each in two channel configurations:

- IR-Live Mono
- IR-Live Mono to Stereo
- IR-Live Stereo

WaveSystem Toolbar

Use the bar at the top of the plugin to save and load presets, compare settings, undo and redo steps, and resize the plugin. To learn more, click the icon at the upper-right corner of the window and open the WaveSystem Guide.

Quick Start Guide

IR-Live's basic preset library contains five halls, three chambers, three rooms, three short plates, three long plates and two spring reverbs.

1. Instantiate Waves IR-Live plugin on your reverb aux buss.
2. Send a signal to the reverb aux and listen to it through the default preset, Live Basic Live Hall 1.
3. Cycle through presets using the next/previous preset arrow control at the top of the toolbar.
4. Once you find a suitable preset, adjust its Reverb Time and Pre-delay controls as needed.
5. To avoid conflicting frequencies and/or to tune the overall reverb sound, use the damping controls to shorten or lengthen the high and/or low frequency reverb times.

Interface and Controls

Interface



Controls

- 1 PRE DELAY** sets the amount of delay between the dry (direct) sound and the wet (reverb) sound.
Range: 0 ms to 500 ms
- 2 REV TIME** allows you to shorten or lengthen the reverb time of the impulse response.
Range: 0.25 to 4.00 (multiple of the original impulse response time)
- 3 REV TIME GRAPH** shows the pre delay and reverb times. Displayed in seconds; range determined by the IR.
- 4 MIX** sets the balance between the input signal and the reverb effect signal. As an aux send/return configuration, this control should be set to 100% wet; as an insert, set it to achieve the desired amount of reverb.
Range: 0 to 100%

- 5 LOWS – DAMPING RATIO** sets the ratio of reverb time for low frequencies
Range: 0.1 to 2.00 (multiple of the original impulse response time)
- 6 LOWS – DAMPING FREQUENCY** sets the cutoff frequency below which damping occurs.
Range: 16 Hz to 600 Hz
- 7 HIGHS – DAMPING RATIO** sets the ratio of reverb time for high frequencies.
Range: 0.1 to 2.00 (multiple of the original impulse response time)
- 8 HIGHS – DAMPING FREQUENCY** sets the cutoff frequency above which damping occurs.
Range: 1000 Hz to 21000 Hz
- 9 DAMPING GRAPH** displays the low- and high-frequency damping.
- 10 OUTPUT** controls the output gain.
Range: -50 dBFS to 0 dBFS
- 11 OUTPUT METER** displays output level.
Range: -30 dBFS to 0 dBFS